Mint U.S.
Sept. 12, 1840.

Sir,

The transmission of the Monthly report of the operations of the Branch Mints presents a suitable occasion for noticing certain accusations ~~with regard~~ touching to the New Orleans Mint, and particularly its Treasurer, which I am told by Col. Wheeler were lately made before him by the Hon. Mr. Benton, and with regard to which I am convinced that this statesman has been deceived.

A general assertion was that the ~~operations~~ coinage of the N.O. Mint fell far short of the amount that was justly expected of it. In one sense this is true, and the assertion, I am sorry to say, may now be extended to the Philadelphia Mint. But I understand it to have been implied that this deficiency was owing to negligence or design on the part of the officers. The ~~test~~ truth of this accusation is tested at once by comparing the coinage with the deposites, and a simple inspection of the monthly reports will show that the coinage keeps up with the deposites very satisfactorily: so that the officers are exculpated completely, for over the amount of the deposites they have no direct control. In the report sent to you to-day, you will observe that the coinage amounts to $93,000, and the deposits to only $26,563.

Some one has informed Mr. Benton that Mr. Cammack suffers the Mint Certificates to be protested for non-payment, and that this is a frequent occurrence, greatly injuring the reputation of the Mint. Mr. Benton is doubly deceived. I have the best reason for knowing that deposits are paid with satisfactory promptitude at the N.O. Mint. It is frequently reported that they owe nothing on this account, and in a letter received yesterday, with their monthly report, it is stated that all deposits are paid, except $305.03 uncalled for, and that there are on hand $4000 in silver coin and $35,000 in gold coin. — It is true that N.O. Mint certificates were formerly protested, but this mortifying circumstance was owing to the disasters that occurred under the first regime of the Mint. — But another point in which Col. Benton has been deceived is in supposing that the Treasurer was the officer to bear the blame if the Mint did not redeem its certificates. On the contrary, this officer has no control over the coinage, and unnecessary delay in which must be blamed either upon the Melter & Refiner, or the Coiner, or both.

When facts are shown to be unfounded, it is not perhaps necessary to look into the motives to which they have been ascribed; yet it may not be improper to ~~say~~ add that my informant tells me that Mr. Benton had been led to believe that Mr. Cammack kept back the payments, because he was concerned in a brokering establishment, and it was his interest to make Specie scarce. Dr. Riddell, who is now, as you know, at this Mint, ~~[illegible]~~ assures me that Mr. Cammack has no connection with any Broker's office.

You are aware that Mr. Cammack was introduced into the N.O. Mint on the recommendation of the U.S. District Attorney Mr. ~~Riddell~~ Slidell, who had, and I believe deserved, the confidence of the government. I feel no peculiar responsibility, therefore, with regard to his appointment; but it would be ignoble in me to look quietly on, while I believed injustice to be done to a faithful and efficient officer.

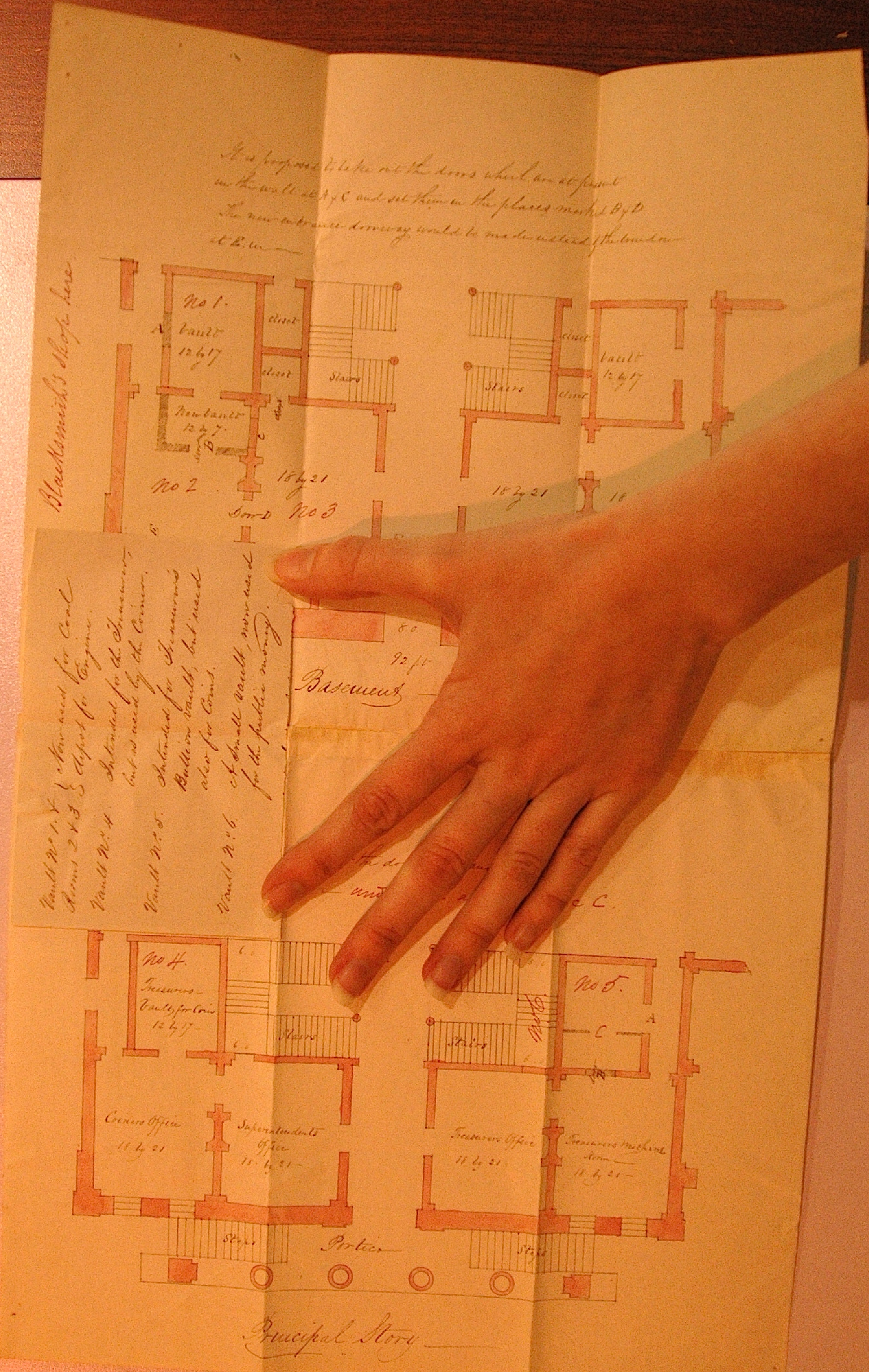
My impression is that the New Orleans Mint is now under the charge of competent men, and that we may confidently looks to a satisfactory execution of its functions, for the future. There was some difficulty from the inexperience of the Melter & Refiner and the Coiner, but I am convinced that this is now at an end. The visit of Dr. Riddell to this mint has given him much important information.

N O

To/
Sec. of Treasury.

Sept. 12. 1840.

It is proposed to take out the doors which are at present in the walls at A & C and set them in the places marked B & D. The new entrance doorway would be made instead of the window at E. &c.


Blacksmith's Shop here
No 1.
A
Vault
12 by 17
closet
closet
Stairs
New vault
12 by 7.
B
C
doors
No 2
18 by 21
No 3
Door D
18 by 21
closet
closet
Stairs
Vault
12 by 17
16
80
92 ft
Basement
C.
No 4.
Treasurers Vaults for Coin
12 by 17
Stairs
Stairs
No 6
No 5.
A
C
Coiners Office
18 by 21
Superintendents Office
18 by 21
Treasurers Office
18 by 21
Treasurers Machine Room
18 by 21
Steps
Portico
Steps
Principal Story

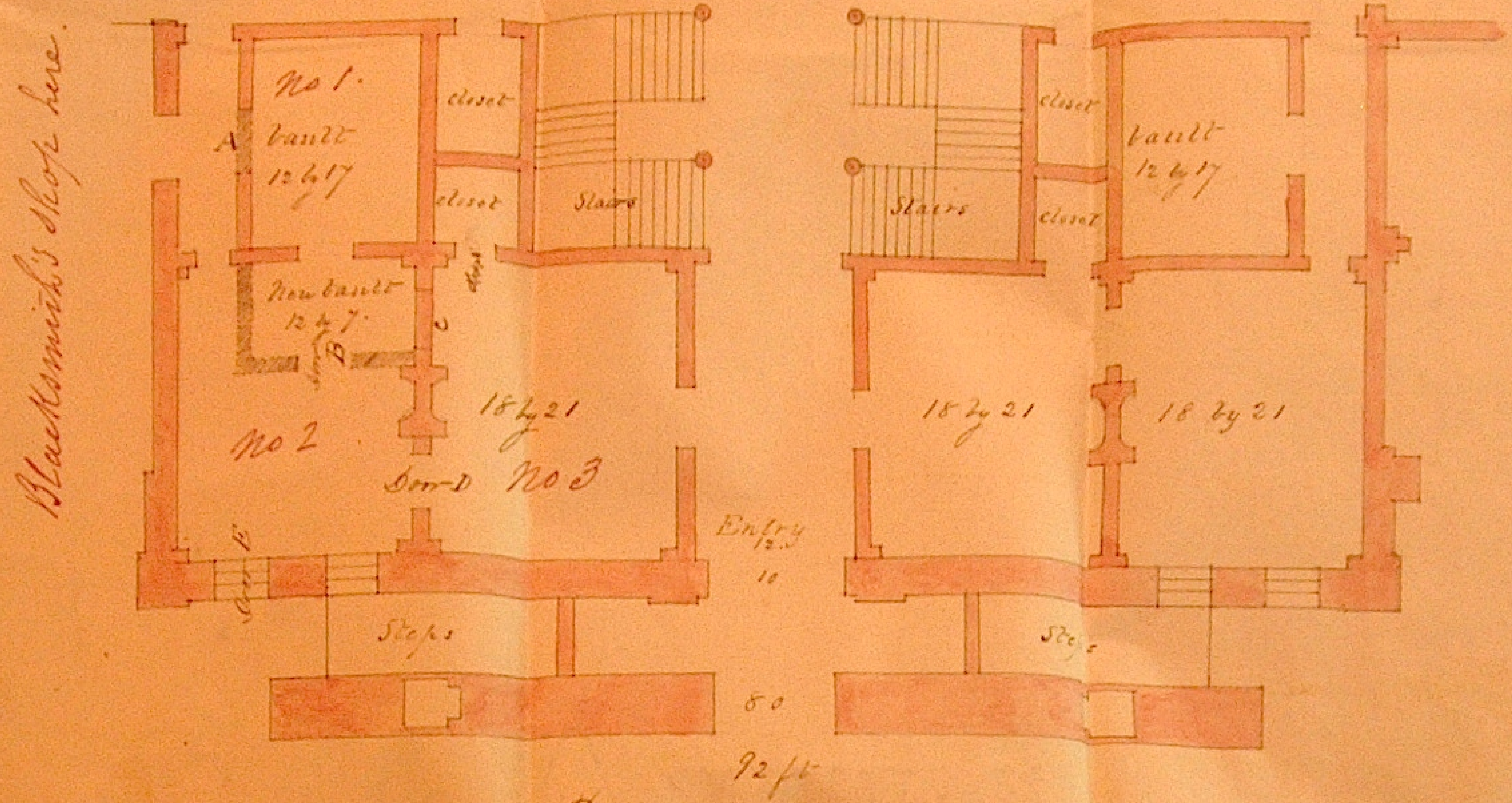
Vault No 1 & } Now used for Coal
Rooms 2 & 3 } Depot for Engine.

Vault No. 4. Intended for the Treasurer, but is used by the Coiner.

Vault No. 5. Intended for Treasurer's Bullion vault, but used also for Coins.

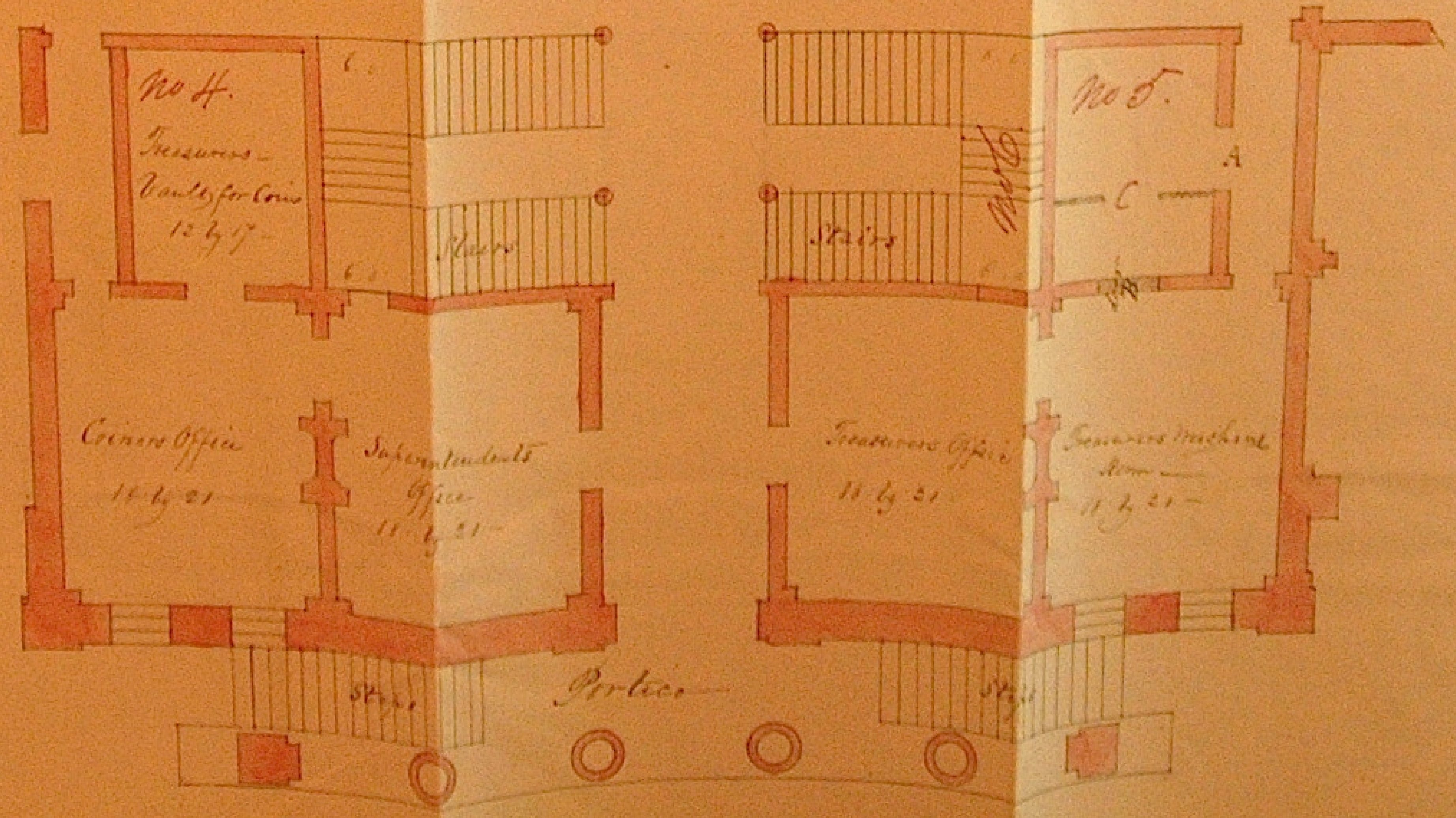
Vault No. 6. A Small vault, now used for the public money.

It is proposed to take out the doors which are at present
in the wall at A & C and set them in the places marked B & D
The new entrance doorway would be made instead of the window
at E. —


Blacksmith's Shop here
No 1.
Vault
12 by 17
A
closet
closet
Stairs
New Vault
12 by 7.
B
C
Door
No 2
18 by 21
Door D
No 3
Entry
12.5
10
E
Door
Steps
80
92 ft
closet
Vault
12 by 17
Stairs
closet
18 by 21
18 by 21
Steps

Basement —

It is proposed to take out the door at A and place
it in the wall at B — and make a partition c C.


No 4.
Treasurers
Vaults for Coins
12 by 17
Stairs
Coiners Office
18 by 21
Superintendents
Office
18 by 21
Steps
Portico
No 5.
A
C
B
Stairs
Treasurers Office
18 by 21
Treasurers Melting
Room
18 by 21
Steps

Principal Story —

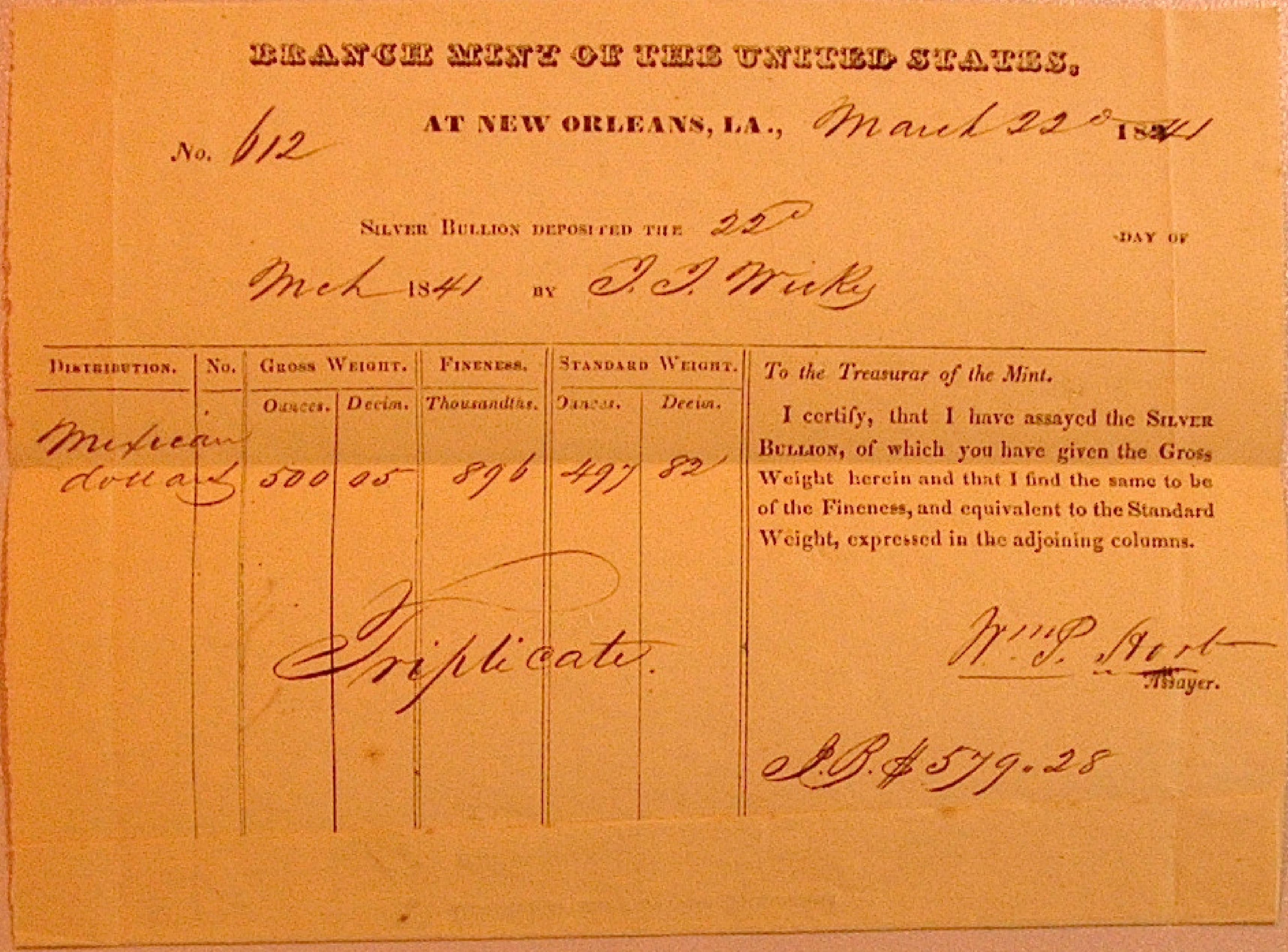
Dr. The Treasurer of the Branch Mint, New Orleans, in acct with the Melter & Refiner — Gold Bullion transferred during the year 1840. — Cr

1840			Ounces	dec
January		To standard ingots delivered	0.000	000
February	29	" "	3,457	510
March	31	" "	3,096	270
April	30	" "	2,065	560
May	30	" "	3,540	090
June	30	" "	3,569	080
July	31	" "	3,609	890
August	31	" "	1,044	830
September		" "	0.000	000
October	31	" "	940	280
November	30	" "	6,391	190
December	31	" "	2,661	670
	"	To amount of bullion delivered in annual settlement	1,383	086
	"	" Wastage	63	646
			31,823	102

1840				Ounces	dec
January	31	By	Bullion received	3,393	986
"		"	Clippings "	1,463	450
February	29	"	Bullion "	186	471
"		"	Clippings "	899	850
March	31	"	Bullion "	718	765
"		"	Clippings "	2,856	350
April	30	"	Bullion "	1,176	920
"		"	Clippings "	895	630
May	30	"	Bullion "	1,091	233
"		"	Clippings "	1,592	230
June	30	"	Bullion "	0.000	000
"		"	Clippings "	3,109	780
July	31	"	Bullion "	285	710
"		"	Clippings "	3,186	250
August	31	"	Bullion "	361	163
"		"	Clippings "	1,003	290
October	31	"	Bullion "	3,244	600
"		"	Clippings "	0,000	000
Novemb.	30	"	Bullion "	1,040	185
"		"	Clippings "	2,901	950
Decemb.	31	"	Bullion "	747	659
"		"	Clippings "	1,667	630
				31,823	102

New Orleans 31st Dec 1840

J. L. Riddell. M & R



BRANCH MINT OF THE UNITED STATES,

No. 612 AT NEW ORLEANS, LA., March 22d 1841

SILVER BULLION DEPOSITED THE 22d DAY OF Mch 1841 BY T. T. Wicks

DISTRIBUTION.	No.	GROSS WEIGHT.		FINENESS.	STANDARD WEIGHT.	
		Ounces.	Decim.	Thousandths.	Ounces.	Decim.
Mexican dollars		500	05	896	497	82

Triplicate

To the Treasurar of the Mint.

I certify, that I have assayed the SILVER BULLION, of which you have given the Gross Weight herein and that I find the same to be of the Fineness, and equivalent to the Standard Weight, expressed in the adjoining columns.

Wm P. Hort
Assayer.

S.B. $579.28

Branch Mint New Orleans
Treasurer's Office March 10. 1841.

dear Sir

In conformity with your instructions, and the wish of Dr Patterson, Director of the Mint at Philadelphia as expressed in a letter to you, I have procured a deposite of dollars - and have had it melted under my own inspection and cast into bars, from which the assayer cut in my presence, two setts of assay slips, one of which I send you herewith, and the other has been tested by Dr Hort who reports the fineness @ 893.7

The dollars were from two boxes of 1000 each taken indiscriminately from the vaults of my Sub Treasury fund, and were mixed with more than the usual number of South american dollars. They were well mixed together, and 500 ounces weighed out from them which, when melted, was cast into two bars - assays were taken from each bar, and they are reported at different rates, the one @ 892.4 and the other 895 making the average of 893.7 as above stated. Copy of the assay report is handed to you herewith.

It is my intention to have a similar melt made of dollars exclusively Mexican.

In a recent letter received by you from Dr Patterson, he remarks that, the Treasurer of the Mint is the officer primarily responsible for the faithful performance of melting down deposites for assay; and if not entirely without suspicion as to the hands employed, he should exercise over them the utmost vigilance

I do not understand how the Treasurer can be, in any manner, made responsible for errors or unfaithfulness in melting deposites. I am not aware that I have any control or authority in the melting department, or over the men employed therein. I have never exercised any whatever. and do not know what testimonials of character are possessed by the laborers in that department.

I hand you, as requested, the account furnished to me by the Melter & Refiner at the close of last year, showing the amount of bullion, Gold & Silver, received & returned by him during the year, and a detailed statement of the amount returned for the purpose of making the annual settlement, with my account taken at the time the contents of his vault were delivered and weighed to me. These accounts contain Dr Riddells estimate of the proceeds of such sweeps and grains as he had not melted, which estimate was verified by trials of the assayer, as appears by his certificate annexed to the accounts.

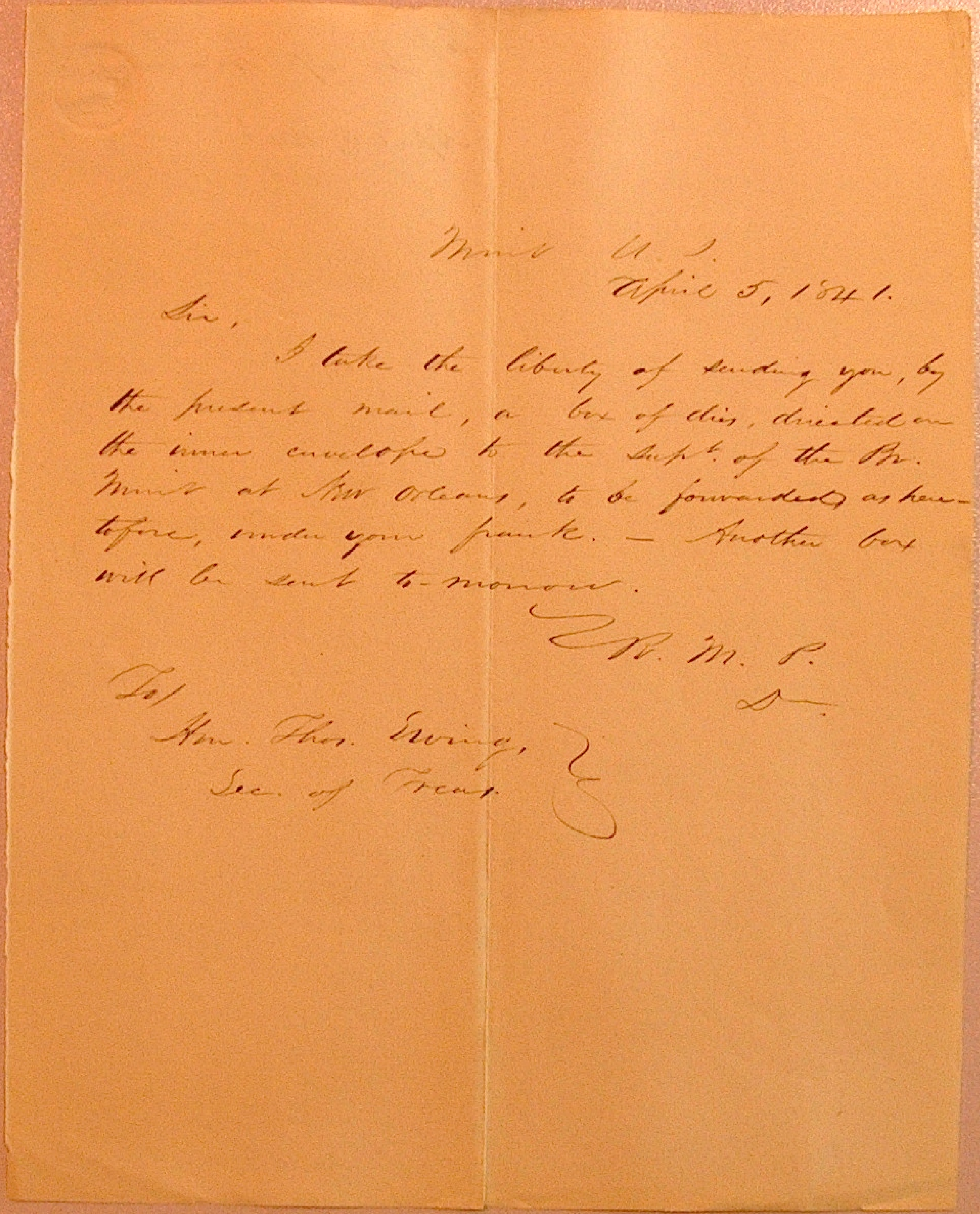
By these various documents you will see that the annual settlement was made by me in conformity with law, and the instructions from the parent mint. This explanation as to the manner in which the sweeps and grains were estimated will probably place this point in a different view before Dr Patterson.

Owing to the various titles of the bullion & the confused state in which it was delivered, there was much trouble in making the settlement: every precaution for accuracy, was, however, taken by me, and assay certificates were required for all bullion that had changed from since it had left my custody.

I believe that I have alluded to such matters as require ~~no~~ Comment from me. and I subscribe myself your

faithful friend
H. C. Cammack
Treasurer

To Joseph M. Kennedy Esqr
Superintendent



Mint U. S.
April 5, 1841.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending you, by the present mail, a box of dies, directed on the inner envelope to the Supt. of the Br. Mint at New Orleans, to be forwarded as heretofore, under your frank. — Another box will be sent to-morrow.

R. M. P.
D.

To/
Hon. Thos. Ewing,
Sec. of Treas.

New Orleans May 25th 1839

Dear Sir

I have both good news and bad news to communicate, but let me begin with the bad and wind up with the good — I resumed the coining of half doll last week but to my great mortification and disappointment I soon discovered that not only was the socket cracked so as to leak oil through, but, that the head of the Triangle seemed to be breaking ~~off~~ in two — I immediately had the triangl taken out with the intention of making a temporary repair, by putting a strong iron band around the top of it — On examination however, I found that the Ball and Socket had been cutting and tearing each other at a most surprising rate, so that the face of the ball appeared to have crumbled off as though it were of coarse rotten cast-iron; and the socket (which appears to be nothing but case-hardened iron) much torn and cut away — My course therefore was to put on the band, as before mentioned, and to order a new ball and socket — I believe that the Press was kept faithfully oiled, and that no blame attaches to the man who worked it — I shall loose no time, in getting the Press to work again —

With regard to the small Press, she has acquitted herself most *nobly* — For the last ten or twelve days of her *running* she has "walked over the course" with 41,000 pieces each day and on the day before yesterday, she won the "Sweep Stakes" of 66,000 pieces — Time 11 hours and 2 minutes — Only person attended her, and it was found that the man could *feed* both himself and the Press at the same time.

I had a conversation yesterday with Mr. Martin Gordon on the subject of the relative benefits, of pushing as we have done the coining of small pieces, or, of leaving them for the sake of getting forward with the larger ones — and considering that the demand for such as we are prepared for the execution of, has been up to the present time fully equal, to ~~th~~ our ability to supply them, and that by pursuing steadily a single branch we could arrive more speedily & to a perfection (which may be at once adopted into all the others) as the following results will show, Mr Gordon is decidedly of the opinion, that I have pursued the wisest course — He says that the half dollars and even the Quarters, are far more desirable to the Banks for hoarding up than the smaller pieces are, besides which a great proportion of our coinage has been put immediately into circulation, by being taken by Individuals in small amounts into all parts of this section of the country — There was produced in ~~January~~ the month of January 70,000 pieces, in Feb. 128,000, and in March 370,000, in April 400,000, including 100,000 half Dollars and in the present more than 600,000 pieces in Dimes and half dimes, besides 400,000 dimes Coined last year — In all about 2,000,000 of pieces, nearly all of which have already been put in circulation

I am glad to hear of the very satisfactory performance of your new Steam Engine, but I was prepared to expect as much from what I saw when I was there — We already begin to feel the want of a similar one, as it is impossible to make our Presses perform as much in a day by the Engine that drives the other machinery as by one devoted to that work exclusively — I think that the difference may ~~be~~ be estimated at from 15 to 20 per cent

Little Patterson, has become a great favourite here, he grows finely, and runs every where, but we find the climate very severe upon him, producing frequent spells of sickness — The Thermometer has ranged for several days from 84° to 88° in my chamber and the "Musquitoes" from 50 to a Million" — Horrible in sickness —

The most of our men who brought out their Wives & families have sent, or are about to send, them back to Philadelphia — My health is very good — that of my family generally rather slim — I should be glad to hear something of what is going on, what changes &c. in your Mint — Please to present my sincere regards to the officers there and

I remain

Truly and sincerely

Yours &c

Rufus Tyler

To/
Dr R. M. Patterson
Director of the U States Mint

Mint U.S.
April 1st, 1839.

Sir,

~~In a late number~~ In the Globe of the 27th ult. there is a series of remarks ~~of~~ ~~on your~~ on the Charlotte Mint, consisting principally of extracts from papers of your city, ~~wh~~ with regard to which it may be proper that ~~we~~ I should give some explanations to the Treasury Department. For this purpose, I beg leave to make of you the following inquiries

1st. When did you commence coining?

2d. Were you supplied, from Philadelphia, with the necessary machinery, apparatus, and materials required for your operations, or do you think that you have had reasonable grounds for complaint in this respect and that this has been a prominent cause for the scanty coinage of last year.

3d. When were the operations of the Mint suspended to allow the unacclimated officers & men to leave New Orleans; and when were the operations resumed by their return?

4th. Did you not consider this suspension, for the first hot season, an act of prudence and propriety?

5th. How are the operations of the Mint now going forward? Have you more than one press at work? Have you yet coined any thing but dimes & half dimes? If so what other coins? What are your immediate prospects as to coinage?

6. How much has been deposited at your mint for coinage: of this how much has been paid?

7. State the whole amount of your coinage up to the date of your report.

8. If you can learn how much foreign silver & gold has been imported into New Orleans, ~~[illegible]~~ since the opening of your Mint, I should be very glad to have this information; and, if possible, I should like to know how much of this was in uncoined bullion.

R. M. P.

To David Bradford Esq.
Sup. Br. Mint. New Orleans

Dr Branch Mint of the United States, New Orleans Cr

1841				Dollars	cts
March	31	To	the Coiner his account of Gold for 109.290 oz. Standard Gold, to be accounted for by him	2.033	20
"	"	"	the Coiner his account of Silver for 76.090.68 oz. Standard Silver to be accounted for by him	88.541	88
"	"	"	the Melter & Refiner his acc^t of Gold for 2.039.940 oz. Standard Gold to be accounted for by him	37.952	74
"	"	"	the Melter & Refiner his acc^t of Silver for 33.133.66 oz. Standard Silver to be accounted for by him	38.555	52
"	"	"	Profit & Loss for balance of this acc^t	662	77
"	"	"	Edmond Forstall, (late Treasurer of the Br. Mint,) for balance of this acc^t	2.342	16
			Carried forward	170.088	27

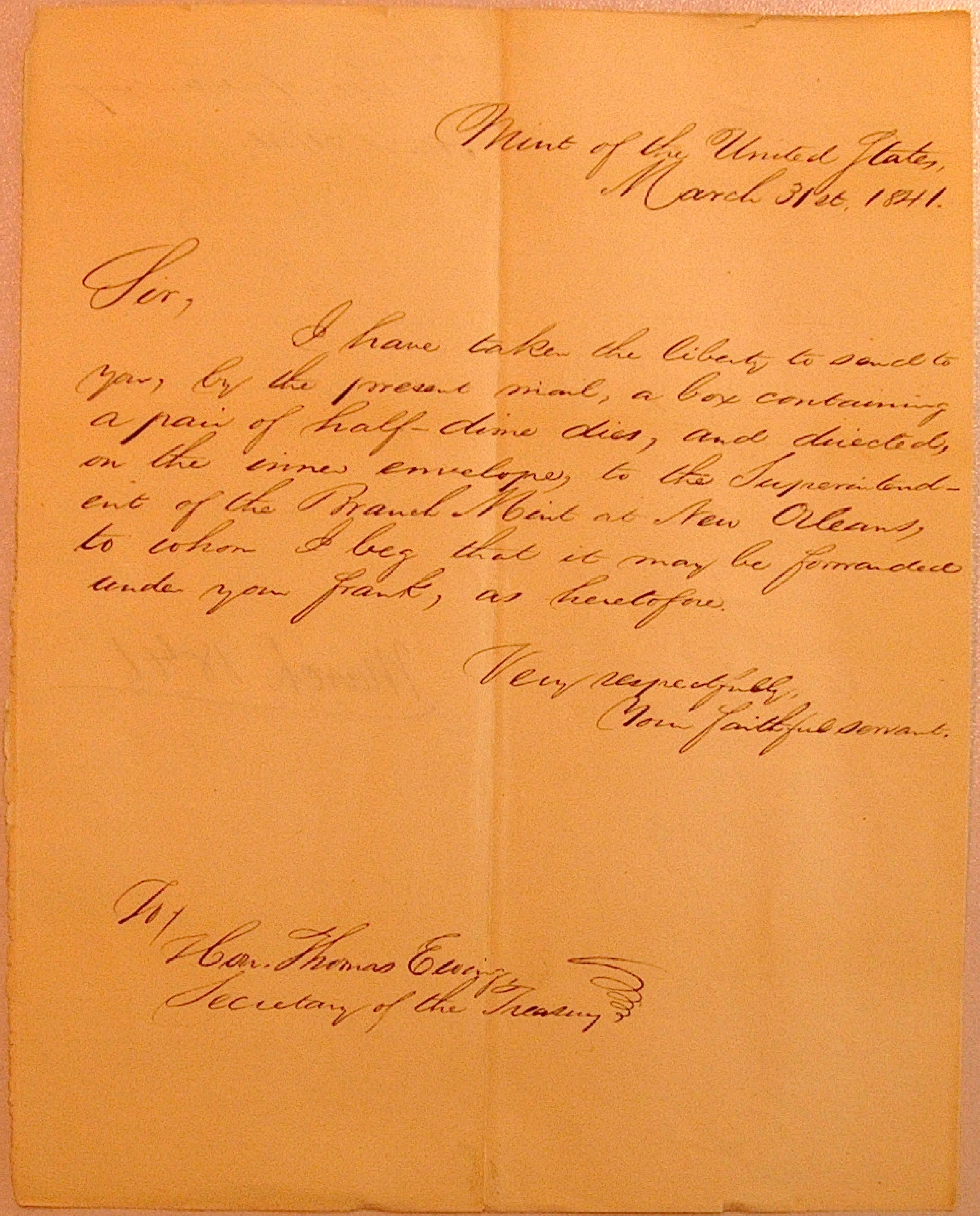
1841				Dollars	cts
March	31	By	Gold Bullion purchased for Coinage, for 3.799 oz. Stand. Gold, due the Treasurer	71	15
"	"	"	Silver Bullion purchased for Coinage, for 347.09 oz. Stand. Silver, due the Treasurer	405	56
"	"	"	Gold Coinage, for balance of this account	9.144	34
"	"	"	Silver Coinage, for do . . do	5.279	10
"	"	"	United States Deposite Account, for the purchase of Bullion, for bal^ce of this acc^t	23.238	10
"	"	"	Thomas Hale, for 3 Silver deposites due him	4.041	15
"	"	"	Citizens' Bk. of Lou^a . 3 do do . .	49.186	68
"	"	"	Improvement Bank . 1 do do . .	602	28
"	"	"	Mech^s & Trad^s Bk. . 1 do do . .	1.036	10
"	"	"	Merchants Bk. of N.O. . 4 do do . .	50.289	18
"	"	"	V. C. Kennedy, . 1 do do . .	99	97
"	"	"	Benoist Hackney & Co. . 1 do do . .	98	81
"	"	"	Converse & C^o . 2 do do . .	1.258	75
"	"	"	Jean Rebola, . 1 do do . .	199	88
"	"	"	Joseph Anderson, . 1 do do . .	497	28
"	"	"	F. Umpfelbach, . 1 do do . .	500	63
"	"	"	Calvin J. Keith, . 1 do do . .	327	48
"	"	"	Bryant & Kibb, . 1 do do . .	693	94
"	"	"	D. F. Guea, . 1 do do . .	379	78
"	"	"	J. W. Walker, . 1 do do . .	2.004	49
"	"	"	John Egerton, . 2 do do . .	2.576	60
"	"	"	Joseph Lallande, . 1 do do . .	100	21
"	"	"	Charles Deake, . 2 do do . .	1.552	17
"	"	"	W. Field, . 1 do do . .	199	39
"	"	"	J. Clark, J^r . 1 do do . .	99	46
			Carried forward	154.770	48

Brought forward 170.088 27

					170.088	27

1841								
			Brought forward				154.770	48
March 31	By	Daniel Weaver,	for 1	Silver	deposit	due him	492	44
"	"	Joseph Lobrano,	" 1	do	do	" "	249	91
"	"	Hiram Bean & Co,	" 1	do	do	" "	2995	10
"	"	E. Fechner,	" 1	do	do	" "	98	10
"	"	J. L. Riddell,	" 1	do	do	" "	151	56
"	"	A. S. Cunningham,	" 1	do	do	" "	101	53
"	"	Louis Morel,	" 1	do	do	" "	1001	07
"	"	John F. Barnet,	" 1	do	do	" "	799	08
"	"	Sam H. Samuels,	" 1	do	do	" "	100	49
"	"	Jane Da Costa,	" 2	do	do	" her	199	03
"	"	J. Tresecke,	" 1	do	do	" him	183	18
"	"	John Rollins,	" 1	do	do	" "	102	98
"	"	Jameson & Todd,	" 1	do	do	" "	97	06
"	"	Bayard Robb & Hoge,	" 1	do	do	" "	5.107	64
"	"	John Shiller,	" 1	do	do	" "	98	66
"	"	Françoise Bachelier,	" 1	do	do	" her	100	26
"	"	Louis Mederic,	" 1	do	do	" him	256	66
"	"	Nicholas Lewis,	" 1	do	do	" "	601	15
"	"	J. F. Laville,	" 1	do	do	" "	100	32
"	"	J. B. Armstrong,	" 1	do	do	" "	456	73
"	"	John F. Miller,	" 1	do	do	" "	100	15
"	"	B. Ingalls,	" 1	do	do	" "	97	29
"	"	L. O. Nordand,	" 1	do	do	" "	100	09
"	"	L. Dobbin,	" 1	do	do	" "	425	99
"	"	Francis A. Gaston,	" 1	do	do	" "	100	37
"	"	J. W. Cook,	" 1	do	do	" "	100	49
"	"	P. S. Levick,	" 1	do	do	" "	99	80
"	"	Richard Kerr,	" 1	do	do	" "	99	92
							170.088	27

Branch Mint of the United States, New Orleans
Treasurer's Office, March 31. 1841.



Mint of the United States,
March 31st, 1841.

Sir,

I have taken the liberty to send to you, by the present mail, a box containing a pair of half-dime dies, and directed, on the inner envelope, to the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, to whom I beg that it may be forwarded under your frank, as heretofore.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servant.

To
Hon. Thomas Ewing
Secretary of the Treasury.

Dr R. M. Patterson
Director of the U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

New Orleans 17 March 1841

Dear Sir

There is here a great scarcity of small change. many thousand Dollars have been deposited for several months at the New Orleans Branch Mint to be coined into Dimes and half Dimes which were long since prepared and cut, lacking only the Stamp, the daily reply to the applicants at the Mint has been for about two months that the Dies are expected by next mail, until they arrive the coin cannot be finished. Will you be pleased to look into this matter, and if the Dies for Dimes and half Dimes have not been despatched to cause them to be expedited as soon as shall be consistent with your convenience.

Should any change take place in the Melter & Refiners department permit me to recommend to your notice & favour Peter Lerich, he was Mr Maxwell's foreman & in whose skill capacity integrity & industry Mr M had the fullest confidence, and often told me that he was fully competent to conduct the Melter & Refiners department. He passed through the yellow fever at the Mint in 1839, and had it most severely. I became acquainted with him during the investigation, he being a witness; his testimony as well as his manner of giving it made a favourable impression on my mind which induced me to recommend him to Messrs Kennedy & Cammack as soon as they were appointed, and they have both since informed me several times that Mr

Lerich merited my good opinion. I also recommended him to Doct^r Riddell as soon as he was appointed, and the Doctor assured him that he should be continued Foreman of this department so long as his conduct would merit the employment Notwithstanding which he was dismissed in the course of a month or two without any cause of complaint, but merely to make room for the Doctors brother, a person vastly inferior for the conduct of such business as I am informed, and as I should judge from the appearance of things about the department, and from results of deposits made for the purpose of coining. Mess Kennedy & Cammack regretted this change and stated to me that they were not aware of any justifiable cause, the consequence was that M^r Tyler gave M^r Lerich employment in a subordinate situation in the Coiners department This unnecessary for me to tell you that public good requires that when meritorious men are found in the employment of Government, that they should be not only retained but on all fit occasions promoted; and nowhere is this more manifest than at the New Orleans Branch Mint.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt Svt
Jacob Parker

PS Be pleased to consider this letter as furnishing information or suggestions for your individual use & not bring me into collision with any of the persons alluded to, on the former occasion my disinterested course in the cause of truth the public service was made a personal matter & subjected me to much inconvenience—

New Orleans March 5th 1841

Dear Sir.

As I have been confined to the house to day from being poisoned by some plant in our garden, I have had a call from Mr Cammack, who wished to consult with me in relation to the affairs now transpiring at our Mint. He left with me the masterly letter of Dr Pattersons, to Mr Kennedy. in which I am gratified to see how ably he compasses the subject. I notice thus insinuation to some of the circumstances of which I wrote, I was not fully acquainted with all the facts; But. that it was my intention to give a true statement of circumstances as they appeared to me, I think Dr Patterson will have no doubt. Mr Kennedy will probably answer all the questions of Dr Patterson. but I deem it advantageous for him to be acquainted with some of the springs of action in this important matter. consequently shall communicate to you occasionally. such knowledge, as may come within my reach.

Mr Cammack says, that Mr Kennedy requested him yesterday, to give a statement of his settlement made with Dr Riddell. at the close of the year 1840 and all the circumstances, as they transpired in relation to it. with his opinion of the, with his opinion of the justness of Dr Riddells claim for wastage &c, to which he replied, that there were no transactions, which

Mr K. had not been fully acquainted with, at the time, and then he mentioned the bar of silver containing gold which was not enumerated in Dr Riddell's Statement, and which did not finally make any alteration in his claim for wastage. Mr Kennedy mentioned it to Dr Riddell, who soon called on Mr Cammack, and said he hoped he would not mention that circumstance in his report to Mr Kennedy. Mr Cammack replied, that he hoped it would not be necessary, but if Mr K. actually required him to make the Statement which he had verbally requested, that, as that was noted somewhere on his books, he should be obliged to communicate it. Dr R. gave his reasons why it should not be related, as because some of the other parcels were found next day, to fall short, enough to correspond with the Statement. But Cammack says he shall do his duty. I asked him if he remembered well, what he mentioned to me of finding 2 strips of copper in the box with the mexican dollars, which were to be melted for the Sub Treasury deposits. He says he reported it at the time, to Mr Kennedy, and will report it in writing if requested. — In relation to this you will understand, that Cammack was disappointed in the result of his mexican dollars, a part of which had the day before been melted, and was strolling through the melting room in the morning, when Riddell did not expect him, and when the dollars were in the act of being poured into the pot, when he discovered the copper as related in my previous letter. — Mr Cammack says, he had a serious conversation, with Mr Kennedy yesterday and asked him his real opinion of Dr Riddell. When Mr K. replied, that he truly believed that Dr Riddell had claimed a larger amount of wastage, than he required, through a dishonest motive. But that it was not his place to make complaints against the officers. though should any information be called for making it his duty to answer, he should answer plainly. But on Mr Cammack's telling him that his view of his duty would not meet the expectations of the government, he replied. that he was sick of the whole affair, and would not be troubled much more with it. Still Mr C. thinks, that if Dr Patterson will Mr K. his view of Dr R. confidentially, that he will pronounce him dishonest and unfit for the place, but that at present, he was trying to put all the responsibility upon Mr Cammack.

From previous circumstances it may appear to you that I make these remarks with the view of Mr K. But while I solemnly disavow the intention of giving any erroneous impression, I cannot suppose they will redound to his honour. Nor can I help thinking how differently, the person whom I have recommended to the Office, would act in the same situation, for I know so well his high sense of justice and honest independence that I think that even Cammack would feel that there was an eye upon him.

Does Dr P. know that we are in want of dies —

Yours sincerely — P B Tyler

M W Baldwin Esq } over

P.S. Please inform me if you think it is agreeable or otherwise to Dr Patterson for me to communicate these things to you in this way —

M. W. Baldwin Esq
Broad Street
Philadelphia

PAID

From
P. R. Tyler,
New Orleans.
March 5, 1841.

[March 26.]

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Feb 27, 1841.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of two pair of 1/2 Dollar dies.

The following dies of 1840 have been cancelled in my presence by cutting a cross on their face.

1/2 Eagles — 1 pair
1/4 Eagles — 2 do.
✓ Dimes — 7 do and 1 Extra tail
✓ 1/2 dimes — 8 do
✓ 1/4 dollars — 3 do and 1 Extra tail
✓ 1/2 dollars — 7 do and 4 Extra tail

Those reserved are as follows:

1/2 dime head die
✓ 1/4 Dollar head die
✓ 1/2 Eagles 1 pair
✓ 1/4 Ditto — 1 pair —

I beg leave to call your attention to an extract from a report, rec^d^ by me a day or two ago from our Coiner.

"We have now no dime 1/2 dime or 1/4 dollar
" dies except the single head die of each sent us in
" January last, all of which are now much wanted,
" and I would advise sending for three pairs of each
" Denomination with one or two extra tails for each.
" Also 4 or 6 pair of 1/2 dollar dies as we have only
" one good pair of that Denomination, and one

or two extra heads, which will probably last us till the beginning of next month. If the above call for dies can be supplied, it will relieve us from frequent embarrassments.

In accordance with your request, I have directed a Melt of Mexican Dollars to be made in the presence of Mr. Cammack. Pieces shall be cut from the bars as you desire and sent to you together with the report of the assays made by Dr. Hort.

I have the honor to be
Very respectfully
Your obdt. Servant
J. M. Kennedy
Supt.

R. M. Patterson Esquire
Director of the Mint of the U. S.
Phila.

New Orleans March 3d 1841

Dear Sir

On the receipt of the Philada. Ledger from you. I called on Mr. Mather, the Editor of the Advertiser, who is my particular friend. And requested him to copy the "Extraordinary performance" piece and to make a correction of the credit given to Norris's engine &c which he willingly consented to do. But in attempting it, gave an erroneous impression, which you will see by the first piece which I sent you — He offered to make another notice of it, but fearing he did not understand the proper bearings of the subject. I wrote the piece in yesterdays paper, which I sent you, intending to have your advertisement or the card of your last new engine, inserted as a continuation of the remarks by but did not see the Editor when I left the papers at his office, and it was omitted. I can occasionally do something more in the same way if you deem it beneficial

I understand that a letter was received yesterday by our Supt. from Dr Pattenson, of six pages, concerning the Melter & Refiner &c. I have thought Dr Patterson will naturally suppose Riddell will resign when he finds any action upon the facts to become too disagreeable for him. But, I beg he will understand that Dr Riddell has no delicacy of feeling in the matter, and will never resign while there is a possibility for him to remain. He says he can answer every word of Dr Pattersons letter satisfactorily. thirteen letters were sent ~~in~~ to him yesterday morning by Mr Kennedy who was much troubled — when Dr Hort was called in for consultation. It since appears that the Dr. has made another great discovery, by which he accounts for a great portion of his gold wastage, and by which Dr Patterson is to be implicated — at least so it comes to me from Mr Cammack, as having been told to Mr Kennedy in secret — Well, he has discovered by chemical analysis, that the acid sent to Dr Hort by Dr Patterson, is *wrong!* some way, so that his gold ingots were not credited to him for so much, by one ounce in a thousand, as their real value. or that the acid had led the assayer into an error of one or two Millions in the assay of his gold ingots — Mr Kennedy enters into it all with a great deal of sympathy, and believes all they tell him, and is highly pleased that the Dr has made the discovery, notwithstanding they were to make *such great use* of it against Dr Patterson. But it appears to me that such a shallow hoax, will not pass very current, after it gets beyond the *deep* comprehension of Mr Kennedy. For will not every body see, that although the acid may be wrong, it cannot affect the Melter & Refiner's account, who has received the gold bullion from an assay made with the same acid, and consequently it must be the depositor who has lost. And, then if they possess the means now, of ascertaining the quality of the acid, was it not the duty of the assayer to have done so before using it, or at least when depositors complained of the low standard of gold deposites, whose standard had been established by long experience — — — Dr Hort —

had Dr Pattersons report here, long before we had it through the papers. It was sent him ~~through~~ by Mr Benton.

I received an impudent letter from Mr Martin yesterday, urging the payment of the money due him for the children's schooling — I shall send you the money to pay him as soon as I get it.

I wish you would inform Dr Patterson of the discovery in the acid. I presume he will understand it better than I do.

I beg you will lose no opportunity of securing the appointment of Mr Dana, in case Mr Kennedy should resign, or be removed by the New Administration —

The family are all well — Remember us at home —

Sincerely Yours
Philos B. Tyler

M. W. Baldwin Esqr
Philada

Mint U. S.
Feb. 23d, 1841.

Sir,

Your letter of the 7th inst, with the report of ~~your~~ the operations of your Mint for January was duly received.

twice The gold pieces forwarded by you have been carefully assayed by Mr. Eckfeldt, and, on the last occasion, with a comparative test-piece of pure gold. The following is the result.

Coins.	Dr. Hort's Assay.	Mr. Eckfeldt's assay.	Excess
Louis XVIII, 1814	898.5	900.	1.5
Napoleon, 1810	896.5	898.8	2.3
Louis Philippe, 1840	897.5	898.5	1.0
Sardinian, 1826	896.5	896.8	0.3

The differences are remarkable, and make an inquiry into their origin very important. Does Dr. Hort make an allowance for surcharge, that is for silver remaining after the action of the nitric acid? — If so, how much? Is he in the habit of using, occasionally, a test assay of pure gold? If not, this would be very advisable, especially whenever he gets a new lot of acid. I hope no pains will be spared by Dr. Hort to find the cause of what I cannot but consider the errors of his assays, so that they may be avoided in future.

The excess above standard of your gold at both the last annual assays, ~~corresponds~~ tends, with the results now found, ~~in showing~~ to confirm the apprehension that there must be an habitual defect in Dr. Hort's gold assays. The matter, however, being now brought fully into his view, I have no doubt that he will find the means of ~~or~~ correcting the error.

I have seen Dr. Hort's publication, in the New Orleans papers, on the subject of base Mexican dollars. Such coins have been long known to us here, especially a variety, under the name (I know not why) of White River dollars; but they have never been met with in such quantity as sensibly to affect the value of large deposits. If ~~such~~ the contrary is, in fact, frequently the case, now, with you, the evil is a great one, and must affect very injuriously the operations of your Mint.

R. M. P.
D

To/
Jos. M. Kennedy Esq.
Sup. Br. Mint
N. Orleans.

P.S. The weight of the coins transmitted by you was 0.659 oz., which I have considered as standard, & have therefore credited Mr. Cammack with their value, $12.09

Mint of the United States.
Feb. 17th, 1841.

Sir,

Your communication of the 30th of January, in reply to my letter of the 4th, was received by me on the 12th inst. It gives rise to the following important inquiries.

1st. Have the interests of depositors been duly protected, in the assays of their bullion?

2d. Have the interests of the government been duly protected, in the annual settlement of the Melter and Refiner, at the close of the last year?

I ~~for~~ shall consider these questions in their order.

1. Valuation of deposites.

From the returns which you have furnished me of the assays at your Mint, during the second and fourth quarters of 1840, it appears that Mexican dollars are generally rated at 897 thousandths fine, though there are variations from 900 to 893. ~~Th but~~ Your letter states, however, that recent deposites were very low,—one especially as low as 878.

In the experience of this Mint, Mexican dollars formerly averaged 896 fine, and were so reported as a general rule. In 1837 they showed a tendency upwards, so that, from August of that year to the present time, they have been habitually rated at 897, and we very rarely lose a melt of ingots from these dollars thus estimated.

~~The Mexican coinage has not such a homogeneous character as we could desire, nor as is found in that of most other countries.~~ The different mints of Mexico are not ~~not being~~ brought, ~~as here~~ like ours, under a common organization, and repeated experiments show that there is a characteristic difference in the quality of their coinage; and although, in commerce, they are always found mixed up together, yet, as the proportions cannot be the same, there must be variations in the average fineness. The principal coinage, however, brought to the United States, is from the Zacatecas mint, whose dollars average from 895 to 897; all the others are above this from 3 to 5 thousandths, except those from Guadalaxara, which, until 1836, were as debased and irregular as hammered dollars, but which then seemed suddenly to return to their integrity, and ~~by~~ thus caused the slight improvement found in the medium quality of Mexican dollars.

If your further experience still shows a depression in the fineness of ~~Mexican~~ these dollars, it will be interesting to ascertain ~~what is~~ which of the Mexican mints is principally in default. It is possible that old Guadalaxara dollars, and even counterfeits, may be more common with you than with us.

In regard to British sovereigns, it appears that in the early part of the year, you reported them at 913 and 913½ fine; but more recently at 915. In the experience of this Mint, sovereigns are exceedingly regular in their fineness, and always bear a report of 915½. This is an inconsiderable variation from your latest reports; but such results as 913 or 913½ would occasion much surprise and perplexity here, especially as we have never seen any counterfeits of this coinage.

In a former letter I expressed my surprise at seeing a deposite of French gold coins rated by you at 895. I ~~see~~ perceive, however, from the statements now sent on that you find these coins ~~now~~, as we do, 899. I presume there must have been some peculiar and unexplained reason for defect in the former deposite.

2. Melter & Refiner's Wastage Account.

It appears that in the settlement of this account at the close of the year, the Melter & Refiner claims wastage ~~of~~ on 1,137,487 ounces, to the amount of ~~2000, being~~ 2000 ounces, — equal to 1.7 thousandths, the legal limit being 2 thousandths.

The annexed statement shows the amount of wastage required by the M. & R. in this mint, in his silver account, for four years past.

Year	Ounces delivered.	Wastage in oz.	Proportion in thousandths.
1837 --	2,855,486. ---	4197 --	1.5
1838 --	3,430,050. ---	6189 --	1.8
1839 --	2,088,097. ---	2728 --	1.3
1840 --	1,483,374. ---	1121 --	0.75

It appears, then, that Dr. Riddell's wastage does not ~~differ~~ differ materially ~~vary~~ from that at this mint during the three first of these years. ~~It is the signal reduction of wastage here, in the year just elapsed, that makes a comparison so disadvantageous to your mint.~~ It is only on a comparison of the wastages for the year just elapsed, that your Mint appears to great disadvantage.

A frequent invalidity of the melting ingots tends to increase wastage, and it seems that in 1840, out of 349 melts, 50 were condemned, with you; while here, 40 only were condemned out of 887.

But it appears that in the settlement a most important item is omitted, to which I have already called your attention. The sweeps has not been returned; and yet in the letter of the M. & R., this item is estimated at from 800 to 1200 oz., though he states that the avails cannot be known until after March next. Now, as our M. & R.'s sweeps, out of 1,483,374 oz., yielded 1206 oz., yours would, at the same rate, yield 925; so that your real wastage would be reduced to 1075 oz., or less than one thousandth, — a proportion quite satisfactory, and which must still be introduced into the appropriate year; for if it goes over to the next, as has been proposed, perplexity and misapprehension are seen to be the consequence, — and, moreover, the law would not be complied with.

I should have been the more surprised at a large ~~the~~ silver wastage, as the deposits ~~were~~ appear to have been received at a low title, and both our annual assay and your ~~ingot~~ report show that the ingots ran below the true standard.

The wastage claimed for gold is 63.646 oz. on 31,823 oz., being exactly the full limit of the law.

For the last four years, there has been no deficiency in our M&R's gold account, and therefore no wastage asked. The same thing has occurred at the Branch Mint in Georgia; and though at first view a surprising result, can be ~~satisfactorily~~ readily accounted for~~, and, as it takes off a burden from the Government, without doing any injustice to the depositor~~.

There is a circumstance stated in your report which makes the large wastage claimed for gold still more surprising. It is well settled here, that the deduction for dirt, on gold coins, should never exceed three-tenths of an ounce on a thousand ounces; sometimes, on clean coins, we have made it less. Now you had, out of 84 deposits, 70 in foreign coins. These 70 deposits weighed

before melting 8248.95
after " 8243.79
5.16
Proper loss at $\frac{3}{10}$th ♯ thousand 2.47
Excess 2.67;

thus making the loss ~~more than~~ double of what we think it should be.

It ~~is admitted~~ would seem, however, ~~that~~ from the correspondence, that this large wastage is, after all, only apparent, and is "claimed as a matter of safety, for want of time to work up the gold grains;" and the M&R "thinks it possible that

he may have something to report to the credit of the Mint," — that is that there may be, in the end, no wastage. ~~at all~~ The danger and illegality of the course pursued, in this account, require no comment. It is easy to see that there has been, in fact, no settlement at all, except on paper; and this is made the more manifest from the circumstance that the claim on the silver account is the exact round number of 2000 oz., and that on the gold account the exact ~~mathematical~~ amount necessary to keep within the legal limit of 2 millièmes.

~~You will see, from~~

The most objectionable item in the M&R's account is his claim for "Silver alloy for gold," amounting to 300 ounces. The gold coinage of the year amounted to 11,690 oz. One fourth of one tenth, (the proportion of silver aimed at,) would give 292 oz.; the actual content, by assay of the reserved pieces for the annual assay, was 26 millièmes, which would make 304 ounces. The claim, therefore, could only be justified on the supposition that all the gold deposited for coinage was of fine bars. Now your reported returns show that the deposits are of a kind requiring no addition of silver, having enough in themselves; so that the M&R's claim, on this account, cannot be allowed; unless, indeed, there be some explanation to give in the case, which does not suggest itself to my mind. It is true that your depositors ~~have~~ formerly, in a few instances, have been chargeable for some silver alloy,—and such is also the case at this Mint; but the charge accrues to the benefit of Government, ~~out of the~~ without being any ~~cost~~ loss to the M & R, whose business it is so to combine the silvery and coppery deposits, in making his ingots, as to arrive, as near as he can, at a well-proportioned alloy.

My ~~impression~~ advice, on a view of the whole case, is that you should cause the wastage-account of the Melter & Refiner to be opened anew, and that it be now credited with all the bullion &c. which he actually delivered to the Treasurer, together with the estimated value of his silver & gold sweeps, and of any grains &c., belonging to last year, which may have been since recovered. With such a course carefully and faithfully pursued, I believe that the M & R's account will appear much less to his disadvantage than according to the artificial statement presented. As to the claim for silver alloy, it is my present opinion that it cannot be allowed, and that it will not be needed.

Your Melter & Refiner offers ~~two~~ three reasons in excuse of the largeness of his silver wastage, of which it may be proper for me to take some notice.

The first is that the Mexican dollars were rated too high,—namely at 897. This implies that he had many remelts to make from such deposites, and that he had to add fine silver, from his own stock, to bring them up. There were, in fact, 50 melts condemned out of 349; but I am not informed whether these were too high or too low, or whether they were made from Mexican dollars. Of our 40 remelts, 12 were too high, and 28 too low, and very few of them were from dollar melts. It is usually the bars which we find it difficult to keep within bounds.

The second reason given is a "loss of weight on silver clippings received;" ~~The~~ and he thinks this loss equal to 1½ oz. per thousand.— This matter has been repeatedly put to the test here. It is found that silver clippings, annealed or burnt off, and afterwards pickled, lose from 12 to 15 dwts per thousand ounces, in the pickling. The dollar and half-dollar clippings are always delivered after ~~annealing~~ being passed through the annealing furnace, but without being pickled; they are therefore free from grease and dirt, but coated with oxide of copper. On

10/

melting the copper is oxidized and the oxygen lost. Now the oxygen is but one-fifth of the weight of the oxide, that is about 3 dwts. The estimated loss of 30 dwts is therefore ten times more than we make it by our experiments. Moreover the loss, such as it is, occurs only on the larger clippings, as those from small coins are returned clean. The loss, on this ground, is therefore so small that the allowance for it, formerly made, has, as you know, been abolished, as unworthy of notice.

The third reason given by your M&R for his wastage is the want, till lately, of suitable apparatus for working his grains, and "the want of sufficient experience." These reasons are valid, and the more important one is probably the latter. Happily every day is serving to diminish it, and I am sure that we may look forward, with confidence, to more satisfactory results ~~than appear~~ hereafter, than appear on the face of the last wastage account. ~~These are~~ It seems evident ~~my reasons~~, however, ~~for believing~~ that this account does not exhibit the whole truth, and that when properly presented it will be much more favorable to the Melter & Refiner.

To/ Jos. M. Kennedy, Esq.
Sup. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

R. M. Patterson
Director.

P.S. In settling anew the gold wastage account, ~~the following item of information~~ it may be useful for you to know that Dr. McClintock's gold sweep, on 105,917.56 oz produced 16.4 oz., so that your gold sweep, for the last year, would, at the same proportion produce 4.92 oz. It is probable, however, that both your gold & silver sweep are richer than ours. The grains of last year, still unrecovered by the M&R must be, however, the most important item.

In relation to the papers forwarded from the Branch Mint, at New Orleans, the two following inquiries seem to cover the whole ground of complaint or difficulty:—

1. Have the interests of depositors been duly protected, in the assays of their bullion, so far as it concerns Mexican dollars, and British ~~and French gold coins?~~ Sovereigns?

2. Have the interests of the Government been duly protected, in the annual settlement of the Melter & Refiner, on 31st December, 1840?

In answer to the first question.—
From the returns of assays at the Branch Mint, during the 2d and 4th quarters of 1840, it appears that Mexican dollars are ~~almost invariably~~ generally rated at 897 thousandths fine, ~~In rare instances~~ though there are variations, from 900 to 893. The letter of the Superintendent states, that recent deposits run very low; one especially, as low as 878.

In the experience of this Mint, Mexican dollars formerly averaged 896 fine, and were so reported, as a general rule. In 1837, they showed a tendency upwards; so that, from August of that year, until the present time, they ~~were safely and~~ have been habitually rated at 897. We very rarely lose a melt of ingots from Mexican dollars.

The Mexican coinage has not such a homogeneous character as we could desire, nor as is ~~actually~~ found in that of most other countries.

It is not difficult to account for this fact. The General government of Mexico fixes the standards of coinage, for the whole nation, and has a mint, at the capital; but the States also have Mints at their capitals, uncontrolled, and entirely independent of each other. In this respect they have no analogy to the Mint system of this country. Now it appears, from repeated experiments, that there is a characteristic difference in the fineness of dollars from the respective Mints, besides some irregularity of each Mint, within itself. It is not necessary here to go into a detail of these experiments; it is sufficient to say, that the difference is not heeded, probably not known, in commerce, & therefore the dollars are always found mixed up together. To make sure of a thorough mixture, it is our practice, on receiving a considerable deposit, to empty the boxes all at a time, and scatter the pieces amongst each other. With this care, we find them to average 897 fine, and to keep very well within working limits.

The reason why the average was bettered, within the past 3½ years, was, that Guadalaxara dollars, which, until 1836, were as debased, and as irregular, as hammered dollars, seemed suddenly to return to their integrity; and being diffused in the mass, of course caused this slight improvement.— However, the principal coinage is executed at the Zacatecas mint, where dollars average from 895 to 897; all the others being above this, 3 to 5 millièmes.

It is not unlikely that counterfeits, and old Guadalaxara dollars are more prevalent in that region, than here, and that the deposits may be depressed from these sources.— However, we hear of arrivals at N. Orleans from Vera Cruz & other Mexican ports, with cargoes of coin, and one would naturally expect, that as they lie nearer than we do to the great laboratories of this coin, they would get the freshest and fairest specimens.— ~~At any rate, as it was known at the Branch Mint, that 897 was the constant report here, and as uniformity is so desirable an object, it seems surprising that the Assayer did not immediately report this downward tendency of the coins, and endeavour, by every means, to satisfy himself as to the cause of it. As the case stands, it is only brought out by the complaints of depositors,~~ & the interposition of other officers of the Branch.

~~Our experience in the gold coins now called in question, is still more at variance with that of the Branch Mint.~~

In regard to British sovereigns, it appears that in the early part of the year, they were reported at the Branch Mint, at 913 and 913½ fine; but latterly at 915.— In the experience of this Mint, sovereigns are admirably regular in their fineness, and always bear a report of 915½. This is a trivial variation, ~~[illegible]~~ from the report at the Branch, in late cases; but such results as 913 or 913½ would have occasioned much surprise and perplexity here.— We have never seen any counterfeits of this coinage.—

In answer to the second inquiry.

It appears that in the settlement of the Melter and Refiner's silver account, he claims wastage on 1,137,487 ounces, to the amount of 2000 ounces; equal to 1$\frac{7}{10}$ thousandths. The legal allowance is 2 thousandths.

The annexed Statement shows the amount of wastage required by the Melter & Refiner here, in his silver account, for four years past.

Wastage of Melter & Refiner in 1840.

Gold	0.000	
Gold Sweeps in 1840	16.400	
	16.400	= on 105,917.56 is 0.154 m
Silver Wastage	1,120.85.	on 1,483,373.75 oz = 0.755 m
" Sweeps	1,206.33	
	2,327.18	on 1,482,167.42 " = 1.570 m

1483374 : 1206 :: 1137487 :
1,206
6824922
2274974
1137487
1483374) 1371809322 (925.—
13350366
3677272
2966748
7105242

105,917 : 31,823 :: 16.4 : 4.9

	Ounces of silver.	Wastage, in ozs.	Proportion, in thousandths.
~~1836.~~			
1837.	2,855,486.	4197.	$1\frac{5}{10}$
1838.	3,430,050.	6189.	$1\frac{8}{10}$
1839.	2,088,097.	2728.	$1\frac{3}{10}$
1840.	1,483,374.	1121.	$0\frac{75}{100}$

It appears then, that his wastage does not materially exceed that of this Mint, ~~found~~ (in proportion) during the years '37 '38 and '39. It is the signal reduction of wastage during the year just elapsed, that makes a comparison with the Branch Mint so disadvantageous to the latter. If our reduction is to be ascribed to improved processes, to the absence of the more wasteful manipulations, to greater facilities for collecting the sweeps &c. ~~and~~ then, in proportion as these are applicable to the Branch Mint, a corresponding reduction ought to be expected there.

It is to be observed, that a frequent necessity of re-melting ingots, tends to increase wastage, both in amount and in proportion. It seems that in 1840, out of 349 melts, 50 were condemned; while here, out of 887 melts, 40 were condemned.

But notwithstanding all that has been remarked so far, the most important consideration remains to be stated; & that is, that the M&R has not returned his sweeps in the annual settlement, but has considered them as it of no importance. Yet in his letter, they are appraised at 800 to 1200 ounces of silver; & states that the avails cannot be ~~[illegible]~~ known until after March next. Now, as our M&R's sweeps out of 1483,374 ounces, yields by estimate 1206 ounces, and as we need not consider that at the Branch Mint to be poorer, an estimate of 1000 ounces (Standard Silver), the medium of the two extremes above quoted seems a fair one, for the Melter & Refiner there. On this basis, his real wastage has been about 1000 ounces, equal to 2/10 of one thousandth, of what was delivered to him; a proportion which would be very creditable. Still, it ought to appear in its appropriate year; for if it goes over to the next, perplexity & misapprehension are sure to be the consequence; and besides, the law is not complied with.

The wastage claimed for gold, is 63.646 ounces, on 31,823 ounces; being the full allowance of the law, even to a mathematical nicety.

For the past four years, there has been no deficiency in our Melter & Refiner's gold account, & therefore no wastage asked. – The same thing has occurred at the Branch Mint in Georgia; and though at first view a very surprising result, can be satisfactorily accounted for; and as it takes off a burden from the Government, without doing any injustice to the depositor, speaks well for the skilful management of the officer.

There is a circumstance which makes this claim for gold wastage at the Branch, still more unsatisfactory. It is well settled here, that the deduction for dirt, on gold coins, should never exceed 3/10ths of one ounce, (six dwts.) per thousand ounces; sometimes, on clean coin, we have made it less. ~~Now, on casting up the returns of weights before & after melting, (or deduction [illegible])~~ now there ~~was~~ were, of 84 deposits, 70 in foreign coins. These 70 deposits weighed

before melting 8248.95 ounces
after " 8243.79
Loss — 5.16
Proper loss, at 3/10 per thousand, 2.47
Excess, — 2.69. making the loss more than twice what it should be.

But it ~~appears~~ seems that this large wastage is only *apparent*, and is "claimed as a matter of safety, for want of time to work up the gold grains." The danger, and the illegality of such a mode of settlement, requires no remark here. – ~~He thinks~~ The M&R "thinks it possible that he may have something to report to the credit of the Mint" – that is, no actual wastage, but rather a surplus.

It is easy to see, that there was no settlement at all, except on paper, and that the whole matter ~~is~~ was indefinitely postponed until after the first of March, when the sweeps ~~will~~ are to be ready to ship to New-York.

In point of principle (not of amount) the most material difficulty occurs, in a claim made by the M&R, for which no explanation is offered. It is that of "silver alloy for gold," amounting to 300 ounces. – The gold coinage of the year amounted to 11,690 ounces. One-fourth of one-tenth, (the proportion of silver aimed at) amounts to 292 ounces. The actual content, by assay of the reserved pieces, for the annual assay, is 26 millièmes, which would make 304 ounces.

But in fact, the whole claim is preposterous. Looking over the returns of deposits, it is evident that they ~~contain~~ are of a kind requiring no addition of silver; they have enough in themselves. True, in a few instances, the depositor would be chargeable for some silver alloy; ~~but~~ and so it is at this Mint; but the charge accrues to the benefit of Government, not of the M&R, whose business it is so to combine the silvery and coppery deposits, in making his ingots, as to arrive as near as he can, at a well-proportioned alloy.

Our M&R was, in 1837 (and not since) allowed 379 ounces of silver, for alloy. But the circumstances entirely justified it. He received, in fine bars of commerce, 16,000 ounces standard; and it all came upon him at once – that is, between March 17th & April 22d, so that he had little chance of mixing ~~his~~ silvery deposits with it. The silver alloy requisite for this, would be 400 ounces fine, or 445 ozs. standard. The depositors paid for this; & if it had all gone into the meltings, the govt. would have lost nothing. Yet it appears, that the M&R found it necessary to ~~charge~~ claim only 379 ounces, and so saved 66 ounces to Government.

None of these fine bars appear in the list of deposits at the Branch Mint; and in fact, there ~~appears~~ is no ground whatever for the ~~such a claim~~ claim in question, unless some satisfactory explanations ~~can~~ remain to be made.

P.S. The three reasons, ~~upon~~ which the M&R at the Branch offers, for his silver wastage being so large, ought to have been noticed in their proper place. A brief review of them here may be proper.

1. The dollars being rated too high, i.e. at 897.

This implies, that he had many re-melts of ingots to make, and to add fine silver from his own stock, to bring them up. There were, in fact, 50 melts condemned, out of 349. But we have no record to show whether these were too low, or too high; or whether they were made from Mexican dollars. Our re-melts, out of 887, were 40; of these 12 were too high, & 28 too low; and very few of them were from dollar melts. It is usually the *bars* that we find it difficult to keep within bounds.

It appears then, that we have not sufficient data to decide whether this reason has weight or not.

2. "Loss of weight on silver clippings received." The M&R's experiments

then, oblige him to infer that the loss is 1½ ounces per thousand.

This matter has been repeatedly put to the test here. It is found that silver clippings, annealed & afterwards pickled, lose ~~9~~ 12 to 15 dwts. per thousand ounces in the pickling. The Doll. & ½ doll. clippings are always delivered after annealing, & not pickled; they are therefore free from grease and dirt, but coated with oxide of copper. The accession of oxygen, is one-~~third~~ fifth of the bulk of oxided copper; that is, ~~not quite 2~~ 3 dwts. and this is about what the M & R gets, with his clippings of the larger kind. His estimate is 30 dwts. ~~just ten~~ about ~~sixteen~~ ten times what we make it. — But again, his reason only applies to the larger clippings; those from small coin, are returned perfectly clean.

This second position, then, amounts to very little; so little, that an allowance, which was formerly made here, on this score, has for two years or more, been abolished, as unworthy of notice.

The third reason, which speaks of the want of a grinding machine in the early part of the year, and in general, "the want of sufficient experience" &c. — we need not remark upon. —

P.P.S. Perhaps it is worth while to ask how it happens that in the accounts current of the Treas: with the M & R, the round sum of 2000 ounces of silver, and the nice sum of 63.646 ounces of gold, just fit in, to square the accounts? Do these allowances actually leave the accounts ~~without~~ balanced?

Mint of the United States.
February 12th, 1841.

Sir,

Your report, in answer to my letter of the 20th ult. has been received, and will call from me a full reply. I now write to make a request, as to questions of the title of Mexican dollars, — a most important point as to which there is so great a difference between the reports from your Mint, and the experience of ours.

It is my wish that Mr. Cammack should procure, if possible, a deposite, — not too small, — of Mexican dollars, and cause it to be melted under his own inspection, and cast into bars; and that from these bars, assay-slips be cut, and one set tested by Dr. Hort, and another sent to us.

It will be understood that I ask this trial of Mr. Cammack, instead of Dr. Riddell, because it belongs, under the law, to his proper official duty; — the deposite not being transferred to the Melter, until after it is reported upon by the Assayer.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servant,
R. M. Patterson,
Director.

To/ Jos. M. Kennedy, Esq.
Sup. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

Mint U.S.
Feb. 10th, 1841.

Sir, ~~&c~~

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th ult.

I am uneasy about the wastage account at your Mint, and wait, with anxiety, for the statement asked for in my letter of the 4th ult., and with which you mention that Mr. Cammack is occupied. — I defer making any remarks on this matter until this report is received; but I will call your attention now to ~~the circum~~ one item in the wastage account which must not be overlooked. It is the estimate of the sweep on hand. While Dr. Riddell was here, he acquired the necessary information for making an assay of the sweep, and it is necessary that a valuation of it should be made by him in conjunction with the Assayer. With this estimated value his account for 1840 must be credited, ~~and as the~~ the sweep being, in form at least, transferred to the Treasurer. It is afterwards ~~to~~ transferred back to the Melter & Refiner, and his account debited with the same estimated amount.

The second list of reported assays of gold coins deposited for coinage, sent with your last letter, renews the astonishment caused by that which you sent me before. We cannot comprehend the strange variation from all our experience. You ~~give~~ estimate doubloons at 914 while we find them 915½ pr. full. You ~~give~~ estimate 20 & 40 franc pieces at 895, while we find them 899; &c.

~~I am~~ ~~[illegible]~~ You know that we were equally struck with what seemed to us to be an undervaluation of silver coins, particularly Mexican dollars. What is your more recent experience? As your deposits are now melted down for assay, it is important that you should be convinced that this operation is performed faithfully. The Treasurer is, under the law, the officer primarily responsible in this case, and, if he be not entirely without ~~doubt~~ suspicion as to the hands employed, he should take care to exercise over them the utmost vigilance.

The annual assay was held here on the 8th inst. I subjoin the results as to the ~~few slow variations from~~ Standard of fineness.

Philadelphia Mint. — ~~Sil~~	Gold	899.5
	Silver	899.7
New Orleans Mint. —	Gold	901.3
	Silver	898.2
Charlotte Mint. —	Gold	900.2
Dahlonega Mint. —	Gold	900.3

You will observe that the variations from standard were greatest at your Mint. The gold being in excess may find its explanation in the undervaluation of the deposits; but how are we to account for the defect of nearly two millièmes in the silver?

The trial of weights, for your coin, was very satisfactory. The gold pieces corresponded exactly with the legal ~~weight~~ standard; the silver pieces exceeded it by only 0.004 oz in 121.258 oz.

R.M.P.

To/
Jos. M. Kennedy, Esq.
Sup. Br. Mint
New Orleans.

Mint of the United States,
Feb. 10, 1841.

Sir,

I have placed to your Credit, in my Account, under this date, $220.- being the amount received from you in gold coins for the Annual Assay, and $141.10,- the amount received in Silver coins for the same purpose;- in all $361.10.

In your letter of the 23d ult., you send me a list of certain items, from your ordinary account, suspended at the Comptroller's office. These are all, except one, for expenses incurred in the investigation conducted by District Attorney Thomas Slidell, and respecting which I had thought that full explanations were given to the Treasury Department. The excepted item is for $535.43, for two drafts drawn on me by Edmund Forstall, and which, it seems, he neglected to enter in his books. On this subject, I have only to state that the drafts were in the ordinary form, were paid, and duplicate vouchers taken,- the originals sent to New Orleans, the others now in my possession.

R. M. P.
Dr

To/ H. Cammack, Esq.
Treasurer Br. Mint
New Orleans

New Orleans February 4th 1841

To the Director of the United States Mint

Sir.

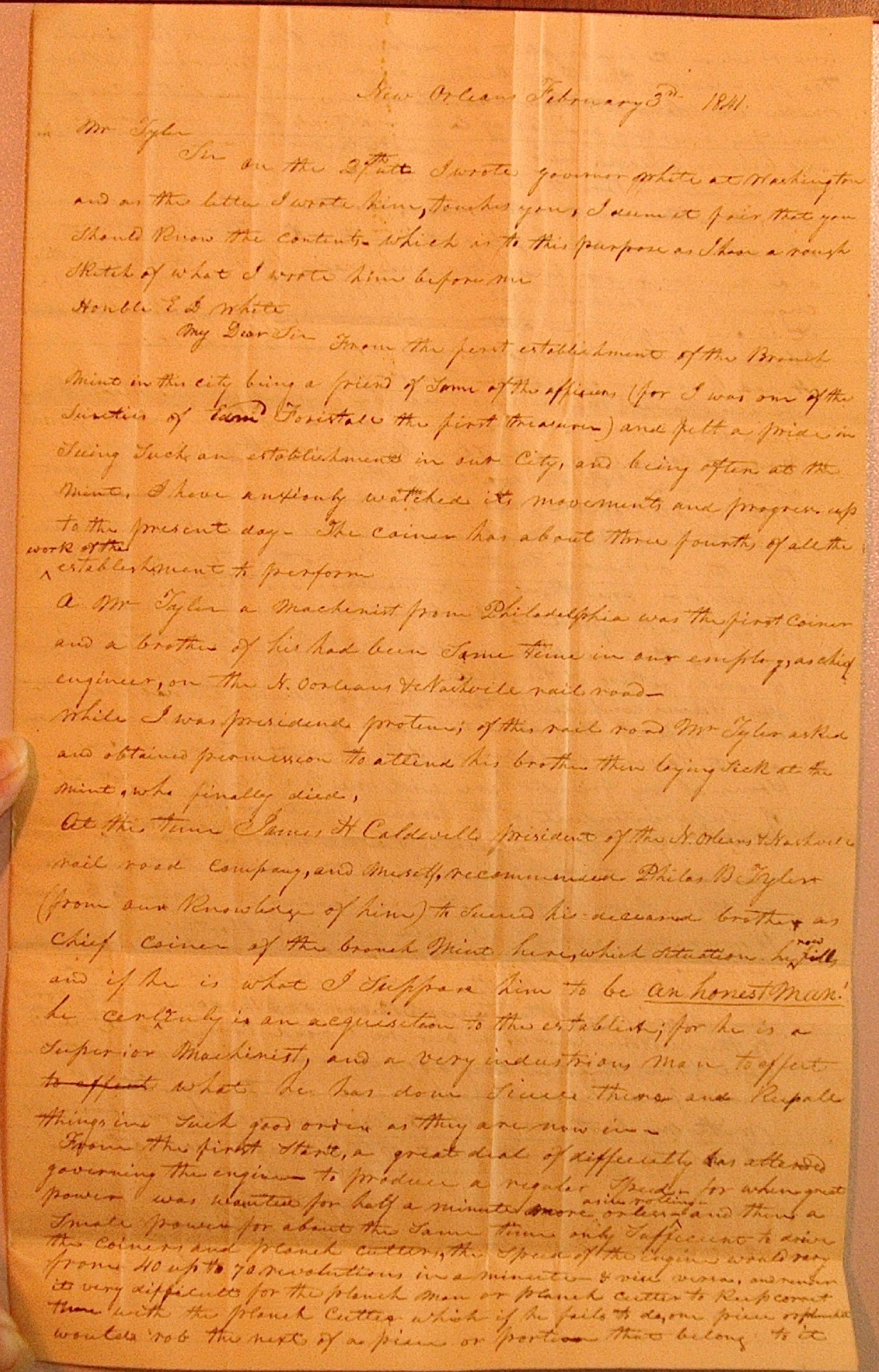
We beg leave to reccommend our Fellow-Citizen Daniel Dana, as being well qualified for the Superintendence of the Branch Mint in this city. From our long acquaintance with him, we feel a special confidence in his integrity and ability, and that he will perform the duties of that office with industry and faithfulness.

We therefore request that you will present him to the favourable notice of the President.

Theodore Clapp

Wm. Freret

Wm. DeBuys



New Orleans February 3rd 1841

Mr Tyler

Sir on the 27th ulto I wrote governor White at Washington and as the letter I wrote him, touches you, I deem it fair that you should know the contents which is to this purpose as I have a rough sketch of what I wrote him before me

Honble E D White

My Dear Sir From the first establishment of the Branch Mint in this city being a friend of some of the officers (for I was one of the sureties of Mr Foristall the first treasurer) and felt a pride in seeing such an establishment in our City, and being often at the Mint, I have anxiously watched its movements and progress up to the present day - The coiner has about three fourths of all the work of the establishment to perform

A Mr Tyler a Machinist from Philadelphia was the first Coiner and a brother of his had been some time in our employ, as chief engineer, on the N. Orleans & Nashville rail road -

While I was president pro tem; of this rail road Mr Tyler asked and obtained permission to attend his brother then lying sick at the mint, who finally died,

At the time James H Caldwell president of the N. Orleans & Nashville rail road Company, and myself, recommended Philos B Tyler (from our knowledge of him) to succeed his deceased brother as Chief Coiner of the branch Mint here, which situation he now fills and if he is what I suppose him to be an honest Man! he certainly is an acquisition to the establish; for he is a superior Machinist, and a very industrious Man to effect ~~to effect~~ what he has done since there and keeps things in such good order as they are now in -

From the first start, a great deal of difficulty has attended governing the engine to produce a regular speed, for when great power was wanted for half a minute more or less axle rolling and then a small power for about the same time only sufficient to drive the coiners and planch cutter, the speed of the engine would vary from 40 up to 70 revolutions in a minute & vice versa, and render its very difficult for the planch man or planch cutter to keep correct time with the planch Cutter which if he fails to do, one piece of planch would rob the next of a piece or portion that belong to it and render it incomplete or perhaps the bar would be pressed too far— leaving the Span between each piece too large and thereby make less planchets than was intended, and in either case remelting reworking and loss of labour attends the operations. and besides which, Such an alternate impetus in motion, Strains the engine and jars the building~

I visitted the mint last friday, Saw the machinery in full apperation, and was highly gratified to witness the operation of a new governor invented and made by Mr Tyler, for this engine (for which he will probably apply for a patent)— it is an ingenious article Simple in its application and I believe will overcome all former difficulties—
It had been in operation two days

He also Shewed me a new Machine invented and made by himself for Milling the edge of coins— which in the presen Mode of doing it, is a Slow business— this is a beautifull article and I think will do the work intended (it is not yet in operation) and if he Succeeds in his ~~[illegible]~~ expectations this Machine will Mill 6 or 8 fold faster than the ordinary Method— I See nothing to prevent his Success— one thing is yet wanting, and that is a Machine to govern the feeding of the plate or bars to the planch cutter— that each piece may be cut whole and entire— So as to loose nothing of the plate that can be worked

He Seems confident that he can Make a machine that will effect this object— and not only do this but be a great Saving of labour, (if he cannot I think I can)

Some of my friends here wish me to apply for the Situation of Superintendent of the Branch mint in this city, and for that purpose have drawn up a few lines in form of a recommendation to the president of the United States, and two or three have Signed it, and handed it to me to transmit to your care, which I will forward Shortly

Touching Sureties. James H Caldwell and my noble Self have been obliged to take the N. orleans & Nashville railroad on our Shoulders to the tune of $12.000 or $16.000— in duty bonds to the custom house, on our rail road iron— or it would have been Smashed long ago— it is an ass's load but we must paddle our own canoe and trudge it—

With my best respects to Madam White and family
I Salute you with great esteem and respect~

To Governor E D White

J. T. Perry—

[illegible]ted States Branch Mint
[illegible] Orleans January 30. 1841

Sir,

I have the hon[illegible]nd you a number of documents containing all the information desired in yours of the 4th instant. The multiplicity of business in the Treasurer's Office has prevented [illegible] being sooner prepared. We have given you on the [illegible] of the gold deposited during 1840 "the loss allowed [illegible] melting;" with regard to the Silver we have selected the 2nd and 4th quarters of the year, as "including all the varieties of deposite." You will also find enclosed a copy of a letter addressed to me by Dr Riddell, which originated in a remark of mine, that his wastage was much larger than I had expected it would have been.

Some of our late deposits of Mexican dollars have run very low, one indeed, from the Exchange Bank, as low as 878. It is impossible for me to account for it in any way, except by the supposition that they must contain a large number of counterfeits. I have not the slightest ground to suspect any one employed in the Mint. If your experience should suggest any mode of detecting any error that might be committed in the matter

Statement of Bullion 1840

Coiner

	ounces, dec
Silver Bullion delivered to him in 1840	1.126.199.56
On hand weighed 1839 returned 1 Jany '40	25.021.80
On hand 31 Dec 1840 returned 1 " '40	9.621.65
Wastage Claimed	650.32
Gold Bullion, Delivered	30.378.349
weighed 31 Dec 1840 returned 1841	544.45
Wastage Claimed	14.695

Melter & Refiner

Silver Bullion Delivered to him	1.137.487.25
On hand 1839. returned 1 Jany 1840	5.464.39
On hand 1840 returned 1 Jany 1841	37.695.30
Wastage Claimed 1840	2.000 "
Gold Bullion Delivered in 1840	31.823.102
On hand 1840 returned 1841	1.343.086
Wastage Claimed	63.646
Silver alloy for Gold Claimed	300.

Gold Coinage $217.500 Oz 11.690 1/10 alloy 1169 oz

Silver 1/2 292

Statement of Gold deposites 1 2 & 3 quarters 1841

Nos.	Description of Bullion	Weight before melting	Weight after melting	Fineness	
8	Lump of Gold	10.44	9.90	380	
9	American Gold	7.53	7.53	985	
10	ditto	11.44	11.43	580	
11	German Coins	11.16	11.15	897	
12	Lump Gold	17.81	17.48	348	
13	One piece Gold	24.30	24.25	599	
14	Sovereigns	143.43	143.28	913	
15	German Coins	15.62	15.61	890	5.
16	10 Spanish doubloons	8.68	8.67	866	
17	10 Columbian do	8.68	8.67	863	
18	Coins	8.77	8.76	883	
19	Mixed Coins	14.19	14.18	863	
20	50 Columbian doublons	60.81	60.76	863	5
21	Sovereigns	76.78	76.77	915	.
22	Sovereigns	127.90	127.80	913	5
23	American Gold	66.96	64.91	981	
24	Gold Contd in Silver	" "	" "		
25	Mixed Coins	48.48	48.46	879	5
26	Mixed Coins	24.20	24.16	873	
27	Mixed Coins	68.21	68.17	870	
28	80 Colum doubloons	173.67	173.13	866	
29	Sovereigns	77	76.98	913	5
30	Mixed Coins	26.07	26.05	857	
31	ditto	18.45	18.42	879	
32	One bar Gold	17.47	17.43	492	
33	do.	17.38	17.34	548	
34	3 bars Amn Gold	47.47	47.44	585	
35	1 bar Amn Gold	9	8.99	984	5
36.	Mixed Coins	36.49	36.47	864	
37.	Sovereigns	89.70	89.67	913	5
38.	Mixed doubloons	492.68	492.53	864.	

39	doubloons	258	64	258	58	864
40	Mexican Gold	18	44	18	42	832
41	do doubloons	77	26	77	22	867
42	Mixed Coins	50	41	50	38	867
43	10 Mexican doubloons	8	68	8	67	869
44	32 Mex: & Colmb. do	27	76	27	74	864
45	Mixed doubloons	34	76	34	74	864
46	Columbian doubloons	347	32	347	22	868
47	Mixed doubloons	99	70	99	67	866
48	Mixed coins	77	41	77	37	868
49	Old Am^n Coins, Carol^a gold	7	28	7	27	911
	coins	12	22	12	20	838.5
50	10 Mex: doubloons	8	68	8	67	
51	Colum: New Gran^a do	34	74	34	72	868
52	Mixed & Colmb^a do	60	77	60	75	870
53	Mixed Coins & Jewelry	11	45	11	01	864
54	Mex^n Doubloons	44	27	44	26	748
55	Do	47	77	47	74	870
56	Mix^d Do	77	06	77	02	866 869
57	do	75	49	74	66	863.5
58	Mex: & Colmb doubl^ns	169	44	169	04	868
59	Mixed Coins	58	76	58	71	885.5
60	Mex & S.A. doubloons	197	16	197	02	868
61	Mexican doubloons	26	04	26	82	872
62	doubloons & Sovereigns	13	23	13	21	880
63	Gold in Silver					
64	Sovereign, old Eagles					
~~65~~	& 20 & 40 franc pieces	64	46	64	45	912 ~~866~~
	Mexican doubloons	171	54	171	51	866
65.	Mexican doubloons	17	87	17	85	868
	Columbian doubl^ns	105	93	105	90	867

Statement of Gold Deposits, received at the Branch Mint of the United States, at New Orleans during the 4th q^r of 1840.

Number	Description of Bullion	weight before Melting		weight after Melting		Fineness
67	Sovereigns	332	68	332	65	915.
68	Mexican & Columbian doubloons	2479	61	2478	56	866.
69	Gold dust from S. America	500	40	491	90	935.
70	Sovereigns	713	28	712	53	915.
71	French Coins	226	61	226	46	895.
72	Sovereigns, Guilders & Eagles	90	55	90	48	913.
73	German Coins	38	96	38	91	893.
74	Mixed Coins	85	92	85	87	882.
75	Mexican doubloons	6	07	6	06	866.
76	Sovereigns	20	38	20	35	915.
77	French 20 franc pieces	259	42	259	34	899.
78	Sovereigns, Franc pieces & Thalers	156	76	156	66	901.
79	Mixed Coins	14	19	14	17	894.
80	Alabama Gold dust	25	48	24	25	958.
81	German Coins.	55	86	55	82	891.
82	German Coins.	17	92	17	90	887.
83	Mexican Gold Balls.	46	20	45	82	842.
84	German Coins.	17	06	17	04	890.
		5097	25	5084	77	

Statement of Silver deposits received for Coinage at the United States Branch Mint at New Orleans, during the Second Quarter of 1840.

No.	Description of Bullion	Fineness	Gross Weight		Weight after Melting	
171	Mexican Dollars	897	86	90	86	75
172	Hammered Dollars	897	804	95	803	35
173	Mexican Dollars	896	86	75	86	50
174	Hammered Dollars	881	818	40	816	75
175	Silver Plate	852	112	00	111	20
176	Hammered Dollars	883	469	40	469	00
177	Mexican Dollars	897	262	50	262	10
178	Do Do	897	825	70	824	85
179	Do Do	897	86	60	86	50
180	Do Do	897	1.029	40	1.028	35
181	Hammered Dollars	867	158	60	158	00
182	Jewelry Silver Plate	852	448	00	444	00
183	Mexican Dollars	897	158	50	158	35
184	Do Do	897	103	40	103	25
185	Hammered Dollars	888	86	20	86	05
186	Mexican & mixed Coins	895	935	70	932	05
187	Mexican Dollars	895	172	70	170	60
188	Hammered Dollars	895	336	60	336	35
189	Mixed Coins	896	130	10	129	80
190	Mexican Dollars	896	86	55	86	25
191	Mexican Test Bottoms	988	239	20	238	70
192	Hammered Dollars	896	378	30	377	70
193	Do Do	903	841	50	840	60
194	Mixed Coins	889	86	75	86	65
195	Hammered Dollars	896	268	75	268	35
196	Mexican Dollars	900	86	85	86	75
197	Do Do	896	176	20	176	00
198	Mixed Coins	884	116	00	115	55
199	Spanish, Mexican, & Hammd. Dolls.	890	85	00	84	70
200	Mexican Dollars	894	188	95	188	75
201	Spanish & Mexican Dollars	897	85	75	85	65
202	Mixed Coins	897	241	35	241	10
203	Mexican Dollars	897	124	65	124	55
204	Do Do	897	86	30	86	20
205	Do Do	898.5	8.676	95	8.669	45
206	Silver extracted from Gold depts. [illegible]	333.	17	55	17	55
207	Mexican Dollars	897	606	70	606	00
208	Mixed coins & old Jewelry – [illegible] [illegible]	873	107	55	105	50
			26,610	45	26,570	60

	Brought Forward		26.670	45	26.270	20
200	Mexican Dollars	897	261	50	261	
211	Mexican & mixed Dollars	894.6	8.665	00	8.660	50
211	Mexican Dollars	897	1.155	70	1154	50
212	Do Do	897	262	60	262	45
213	Do Do	898.6	1.675	30	1.667	50
214	Mexican Fut Bottoms	955	310	20	309	15
215	Fut Bottoms & [illegible]	958	303	30	302	00
216	Hammered Dollars	884	123	90	123	55
217	Mexican Dollars	897	606	85	606	35
218	Mexican & mixed Coins	900 & 897	681	05	680	35
219	Hammered Dollars	885	260	00	259	20
220	Mexican Dollars	897	86	60	86	50
221	Do Do	897	87	00	86	90
222	Hammered & mixed Dollars	870	140	70	140	50
223	Mexican Dollars	897	406	80	406	10
224	Mexican Dollars	897	86	20	86	10
225	Do Do	897	248	75	248	35
226	Mixed Coins	891	127	15	126	80
227	Hammered Dollars	878	100	15	99	60
228	Mexican Dollars	897	433	85	432	65
229	Mixed Coins	894	102	85	102	35
230	Silver Plate	875	104	70	103	20
231	Mexican Dollars	897	17.348	75	17.333	75
232	Do Do	897	107	40	107	30
233	Mexican Fut Bottoms	942	643	50	639	50
234	Do Do	980	666	45	662	15
235	Mexican Dollars	897	86	55	86	45
236	Mixed Coins	788	149	75	149	25
237	Do Do	891	233	60	233	30
238	Mexican Dollars	897.5	8.678	60	8.671	10
239	Do Do	896	867	10	866	95
240	Do Do	897.5	8.678	90	8.671	40
241	Mexican Fut Bottoms	965	924	60	917	40
242	Mixed Coins	905	85	95	85	85
243	Peruvian Coins	839	163	20	163	05
244	Mexican Dollars	897	86	70	86	40
245	Mixed Coins	682	140	60	135	75
246	Mexican Dollars	897.5	17.346	05	17.331	65
247	Mixed Coins	897	85	10	85	70
248	Mexican Dollars	897	86	70	86	00
249	Mixed Coins	897	99	50	98	90
	Carried Forward		106.262	90	106.127	90

	Brought Forward		106.262	90	106.127	90
250	Spanish Pistareens	898	299	50	299	00
251	Mixed Coins	897	259	75	259	50
252	Mexican Dollars	897	86	65	86	55
253	Do Do	897	129	90	129	75
254	Mixed Coins	850	229	40	227	50
255	Mexican Dollars	897.5	17.406	35	17.391	50
256	Do Do	897	86	60	86	50
257	Spanish Pistareens	812	151	85	151	50
258	Mexican & Spanish Coins	897	2.630	65	2.628	55
259	Mexican Dollars	897	86	90	86	80
260	Do Do	897	12.975	10	12.963	83
261	Do Do	897.5	4.335	70	4319	91
262	Do Do	899	13.012	55	13.001	30
263	Do Do	899	2.598	85	2596	60
264	Do Do	897	86	90	86	60
265	Do Do	897	433	00	432	60
266	Mixed Dollars	898	227	70	227	35
267	Do Do	895	87	30	87	20
268	Mexican Dollars	897	86	35	86	25
269	Do Do	897	16.444	80	16.431	60
270	Do Do	897	1.734	50	1732	75
271	Mixed Coins	868	153	40	153	00
272	Mexican Dollars	897	248	60	248	35
273	Do Do	897	1.735	50	1734	00
274	Fut & Bottoms	984	700	80	699	05
			182.591	50	182.374	84

Statement of Silver deposits received at the Branch Mint of the United States at New Orleans, during the Fourth quarter, 1840.

No.	Description of Bullion		Fineness	Gross Weight		Weight after Melting	
338	Mexican	Dollars	897	432	80	431	90
339	Mexican Bar	Buttons	950	918	15	917	00
340	Hammered	Dollars	877	754	70	752	00
341	Mexican	Dollars	897	87	40	86	30
342	Mexican	Dollars	897	1038	35	1037	55
343	Hammered	Dollars	890	82	90	82	20
344	Mexican	Dollars	897	694	00	693	40
345	Old Jewelry	Mexican	833	342	10	338	20
346	Mixed	Dollars	876	116	20	116	00
347	Mexican	Dollars	897	176	20	176	00
348	Mexican	Dollars	897	2599	90	2599	15
349	Mexican	Dollars	896	26.025	40	26.002	90
350	Mexican	Dollars	897	93	80	93	70
351	Mexican	Dollars	897	867	30	866	55
352	Mexican	Dollars	897	867	30	866	95
353	Mexican	Dollars	897	867	50	866	75
354	Mexican	Dollars	897	867	60	866	85
355	Mexican	Dollars	897	867	45	866	70
356	Mixed	Coins	865	254	20	253	45
357	Mexican	Dollars	897	88	10	88	00
358	Mixed	Coins	893	1747	50	1743	20
359	Mexican	Dollars	897	2602	90	2600	65
360	Mexican	Dollars	897	121	30	121	15
361	Mexican	Dollars	897	86	40	86	30
362	Mexican	Dollars	897	173	90	173	75
363	Mexican	Dollars	897	173	40	173	35
364	Mexican	Dollars	897	867	20	866	45
365	Mexican	Dollars	897	867	60	866	85
366	Mexican	Dollars	897	867	60	866	85
367	Mexican	Dollars	897	867	50	866	75
368	Mexican	Dollars	897	870	70	869	95
369	Hammered	Dollars	865	162	25	161	90
370	Mexican	Dollars	897	174	00	173	80
371	Mexican	Dollars	897	90	00	89	55
372	Mexican	Dollars	897	156	30	155	15
373	Mexican	Dollars	897	86	75	86	65
374	Mexican Dolls & Silver plate		869	94	10	94	00
375	Mexican	Dollars	892	272	30	271	70
	Carried forward			48.520	75	48.270	55

	Brought forward		48.320	75	48.270	35
376	Mexican Dollars	897	1.362	45	1.301	30
377	Mixed Coins	897	82	80	82	70
378	Mexican, Sp. & S. Am. Dollars	897	454	15	453	75
379	Mexican dolls & silver plate	880	92	95	92	75
380	Spanish Lima Dollars	896	466	60	466	10
381	Mexican Dollars	897	440	00	439	50
382	Mexican Dollars	897	4337	50	4333	75
383	Hammered Dollars	877	90	50	89	65
384	Mexican Dollars	897	96	80	96	70
385	Mexican Dollars	897	108	00	107	90
386	Mexican Dollars	896	26016	55	25.994	05
387	Mexican Dollars	897	86	15	86	05
388	Mixed Coins	876	179	20	178	90
389	Spanish & Mexican Dollars	897	173	00	172	80
390	Mexican Dollars	897	869	30	868	55
391	Mexican Dollars	897	867	50	866	75
392	Mexican Dollars	897	4333	90	4330	15
393	Small, cut Coins	895	93	70	93	30
394	Spanish, 20 & 40 & Mex. dolls	815, 896	17.841	90	17.826	25
395	Mexican Dollars	897	85	90	85	80
396	Mixed Coins	888	231	05	230	60
397	5 franc pieces	900	15.018	65	15.003	55
398	Mexican Dollars	897	86	75	86	65
399	Mexican Dollars	897	86	65	86	55
400	Mexican Dollars	897	250	60	250	35
401	Mexican Dollars	897	434	70	434	30
402	Mexican Dollars	897	86	85	86	75
403	Mexican Dollars	897	86	60	86	50
404	Mexican Dollars	897	89	15	89	05
405	Hammered Dollars	883	286	70	285	60
406	Mexican Dollars	897	846	30	845	35
407	Mexican Dollars	900	173	30	173	10
408	Hammered Dollars	865	442	80	441	10
409	Mexican Silver plate	850	298	60	288	50
410	Hammered Dollars	879	280	35	279	20
411	Hammered Dollars	888	502	45	500	00
412	Mexican Dollars	897	433	50	433	10
413	Hammered Dollars	870	241	00	240	00
414	Spanish quarters	897	81	85	81	45
415	Jewelry in Bars	812	103	30	101	40
416	Mexican Dollars	897	86	60	86	50
417	Hammered Dolls & Spa. quarters	876	146	50	146	20
	Carried forward		126.621	85	126.483	25

	Brought forward		126.621	85	126.483	25
418	Mexican Dollars	897	845	00	824	25
419	Mexican Dollars	895	26.029	25	26.006	75
420	Mexican Dollars	897	86	70	86	60
421	Mexican Dollars	897	346	90	346	25
422	Mixed Bullion	890	156	70	156	40
423	Hamm.d Dolls & Spa.h 4's	868	284	25	282	20
424	Mexican Dollars	899	172	90	172	70
425	Hammered Dollars	897	252	40	250	25
426	Spanish Dollars	897	191	70	191	50
427	Mexican Dollars	897	86	70	86	60
428	Mexican Dollars	897	86	60	86	50
429	Mexican Dollars	897	866	10	865	35
430	Mex.n Dolls & 5 franc pieces	897	861	70	860	95
431	Hammered Dollars	892	92	60	92	00
432	Mexican Dollars	897	130	00	129	55
433	Mexican Dollars	897	346	10	345	80
434	Mexican Dollars	897	173	10	172	95
435	Mexican Dollars	897	86	50	86	40
436	Mexican Dollars	897	86	10	86	00
437	Mexican Dollars	897	501	85	501	35
438	Mexican Dollars	897	173	50	173	35
439	Mexican Sil. Bottoms	984	2300	10	2284	40
440	Mexican Dollars	897	435	00	434	60
441	Mexican Dollars	897	86	00	85	90
442	Mexican Dollars	897	86	60	86	50
443	Mexican Silver plate	850	685	80	679	80
444	Mexican Dollars	897	867	50	866	75
445	Mexican Dolls & Silver plate	868	116	70	115	70
446	Mexican Dollars	897	545	10	544	60
447	Mexican Dollars	897	86	20	86	10
448	Bars Mint Silver & exchange	897	148	80	147	90
449	Mexican Dollars	897	86	70	86	60
450	Mexican Dollars	894	99	80	99	70
451	Mixed Coins	876	118	70	118	20
452	Hammered Dollars	890	88	20	87	90
453	Mexican & Hamm.d dolls	898	869	10	867	80
454	Mexican Dollars	899	86	50	86	40
455	Mixed Coins	896	12.485	40	12.474	55
456	Mixed Coins	899	115	55	115	00
457	Mexican & Hamm.d dolls.	892	112	40	112	20
458	Hammered Dollars.	892	205	20	204	40
	Carried forward		178.073	85	177.861	45

	Brought Forward		178.073	85	177.861	45
459	Hammered Dollars	881	926	00	924	50
460	Hammered dolls & [illegible]	873	109	20	108	60
461	Hammered Dollars	884	170	20	169	50
462	Mexican Dollars	898	86	70	86	60
463	Hammered Dollars	879	1063	70	1061	80
464	Hammd dolls & Pistareens	863	135	40	135	10
465	Mexican Dollars	897	86	60	86	50
466	Mexican Dollars	897	867	00	866	35
467	Mexican Dollars	895	17.327	50	17.312	30
468	Mexican Dollars	897	103	45	103	35
469	Mexican Dollars	897	86	40	86	30
470	Mexican Dollars	897	671	20	670	60
471	Mexican Dollars	897	418	30	417	90
472	Mexican Dollars	897	86	40	86	30
473	Mexican Dollars	897	163	80	163	65
474	Mexican Dollars	897	867	80	867	05
475	Mexican Dollars	895	8656	00	8648	50
476	Mexican Dollars	897	173	20	173	00
477	Mixed Coins	893	171	10	170	50
478	Hammered Dollars	888	109	40	109	00
479	Mexican Dollars	897	172	80	172	65
480	Mexican Dollars	897	173	60	173	45
481	Mexican Dollars	906	175	75	174	40
482	Mexican Dollars	897	86	80	86	70
483	Mexican Dollars	897	173	40	173	25
484	Mexican Dollars	897	161	20	161	05
485	Mexican Test Bottoms	982. 980 983. 915	2772	00	2757	90
486	Mexican Silver plate	860	262	50	260	50
487	Mexican Dollars	897	86	20	86	10
488	Mexican Dollars	897	1039	70	1038	70
489	Mexican Test & Bottoms	983	205	60	204	50
490	Mexican Dollars	897	123	40	123	25
491	Mexican Dollars	897	867	00	866	25
492	Mexican Dollars	897	477	75	477	30
493	Mexican Dollars	890	86	30	86	20
494	Mexican Dollars	897	93	00	92	90
495	Mexican Dollars	897	1688	00	1686	50
496	Mixed Coins	892	99	40	98	45
497	Mexican Dollars	897	3035	25	3032	60
498	Mixed Coins	874	183	00	182	60
499	Mexican Dollars	867	87	50	87	40
500	Mexican Dollars	897	86	50	86	40
	Carried Forward		222.495	05	222.223	60

	Brought Forward		222.495	05	222.223	00
501	Mexican Dollars	897	86	75	86	65
502	Mexican Dollars	897	86	40	86	60
503	Mexican Dollars	897	173	50	173	35
504	Mexican Dollars	897	173	05	172	90
505	Mexican Dollars	897	173	50	173	35
506	Mexican Dollars	897	173	10	172	95
507	Mexican Dollars	897	172	80	172	65
508	Mixed Coins	897	434	60	434	20
509	Mexican Dollars	897	86	70	86	60
510	Mexican Dollars	897	86	50	86	40
511	Mexican Dollars	897	262	00	261	75
			224.403	95	224.130	40

Reporters Assays of Ingots. 1840.

33	900.4	70	899.9	120	898.6		898.6		899.5
	900.4		898.2		898.		898.6		898.6
	899.5		898.		900.4		899.5		898.
	901.3		901.3		900.4		899.5		902.
	899.		899.5		898.6	160	901.7		899.5
	898.6		898.6		901.		898.6	210	901.7
	901.2		900.4		898.6		899.5		901.7
40	900.4	80	898.		898.6		899.5		900.4
	900.4		899.9		899.		899.		898.
	900.8		901.7	130	898.		899.		900.8
	899.		898		898.6	171	900.4		901.3
	899.		898		899.		898.2		898.6
	898.6		898		898.		898.6		899.5
	898.6		898.6		898.2		899		898.2
50	901.		901.3		899.9		898.6		900
	898.6	90	898.6		898.2		901.3	220	900.8
	902.		898.6		898.2		898.6		899.9
	899.05		900.4		899.5	181	898.2		899.5
	899.05		898.6	140	899.5	183	902		899
	899.05		898.6		899.5		898		899
	898.02		[illegible]0.4		899.	192	901.7		899
	898.2		900.4		898.8		900.8		899.5
	899.		898.6		898.8		901.7		899.5
60	899.9		899.		898.2		898.2		898.2
	899	100	898.		901.3		900.4		900.
	899		898.2		898.6		898.6	230	901.3
	898.6		898.6		899.5		898.2		901.5
	901.7		898.6	150	899.5		898.2		899.5
	902.		898.6		900.4	200	900.4		899.9
	900.4		898.6		898.6		901.3		901.7
	898.6		898.2		900.		901.3		901.3
	899.9		900.4		899.5		901.7	240	898.
			898.6		898.6		898.		898.

898.6
899.5
899.5
900.4
899.5
251 900.8
899.5
898.2
900
900
900.8
898.2
901.3
260 899.5
900.4
899.9
900.4
899.5
900.8
898.4
271 899.9
900.2
900.4
900.4
900.4
~~900.4~~
899
902
902
280 899
899
899.7
900.4
899.5
898.6
899.9

902.
898.6
899.
290 898
900.8
899.
900.4
898.6
898.6
898.2
902.
899.9
300 901.7
900.4
901.3
901.3
899.5
899.5
900.4
898.6
899.9
899.5
310 898.6
899.5
899.5
899.5
898.6
899.
899.9
900.4
901.3
320 900.4
901.3
901.3
323 901.3

Up to 323, are Small Melts.

Reg. Book 25 May. 1840

324 899
898.2
899
899.
899.5
898.
330 898.
899.5
899.
899.
899
898.2
898.6
898.6
898.6
340 899.5
899.
898.2
898.6
899.5
898.5
898.8
899
898.6
900.
350 900
899
899
898.4
900
899.7
898.6
899.5
900.

360 900
899
899.5
898
900
899
899
898.2
898.6
899.
370 899
900
898.8
899
898.8
898.6
898.6
899.
899
900
380 900
899

Some numbers missed failures in melting.—

Gold

1 899.5
899.5
899
900
899.5
899
900.5
12 901
900.5
900
900.5
900
900
901
901
20 900.7
900
900
900
900
899.5
899
900
901
29 899

25) 22500.2

Average — 900.008

Mr Cammack tells me, he has no confidence in the Melter & Refiner since he went into the Melting room one morning when a Sub-Treasury deposite was being melted (a part of the one spoken of by Dr Patterson) and discovered them shoveling in several large strips of copper with the dollars, and on calling Dr R. he declared that it had got in them by mistake &c

All the officers are summoned to court to day by one of Dr Riddells workmen (whom he has lately discharged)

New Orleans Jan 25th 1841

Dear Sir

I saw Mr Bronson yesterday and took a receipt of him for the money collected for the Jars, of which the above is a duplicate. He wished me to mention to you that he had not effected any sales yet, but had some prospect of doing so. He expects to leave here in about 10 days.

Something new occurs every day in the Mint — the fact of Dr Riddells having attributed a part of his loss to the dirty, greasy state of my clippings, renders it necessary for him to give me a great deal of trouble, in making it appear that he believes the assertion to be true. But I sincerely believe that he has gained by my clippings rather than lost. I suppose Dr Patterson is aware that I pickle my dimes & half dimes in the strips, by which I should think they would be refined half a million. I have made experiments on the dirtiest clippings which I have been obliged to deliver to him, and could never believe that they contain to the utmost extent, more than 15. or 20 hundredths of an ounce in one thousand, and ordinarily not over 5/100 which I think is more than or compensated for by the refining in ordinary annealing and at all events, by the pickling of the dime & ½ dime strips. There is one fortunate circumstance which is, that he cannot apply the same excuse to his loss on the gold, for the Gold Clippings have always been delivered perfectly bright and free from the least particle of dust. while they have been pickled at least 4 times, and the last time heated nearly to redness, to free them from any moisture which they might contain —

The Secretary of the Treasury, has drawn on us for $80.000. of the Government deposites, at a time when we have not a dollar in readiness — Mr Cammack, has induced one of the Banks, to deposite $100.000 &c in order to facilitate our opperations untill the drafts can be paid, of which 2 melts of $20.000 have been made. The first of which fell down to 893. The Second to 894 which is so out of all expectation or reason that the Cashier of the Bank will not submit to it. and the remainder of the deposite, is ordered not to be melted

Mr Cammack tells me, he has no confidence in the Melter & Refiner since he went into the Melting room one morning when a Sub-Treasury deposite was being melted (a part of the one spoken of by Dr Patterson) and discovered them shoveling in several large strips of copper with the dollars, and on calling Dr R. he declared that it had got in there by mistake &c

All the officers are summoned to court to day by one of Dr Riddells workmen (whom he has lately discharged) on account of a bill he claims of. about $60. for keeping his books, which he says he has done evenings. and which Dr R is unwilling to allow him for. we shall soon see how it will come out

I am straining every point in my department to meet our present exegencies — But unfortunately am obliged to work with old dies, in reality unfit for use I think I have never been properly supplied, although Dr P. has always sent them immediately when written for. but the Supt sometimes neglects to write for them untill we are almost entirely out — Perhaps I have not done as well with them as Dr Patterson expected. But I have one consolation, that I have always been improving in tempering them, while I have in many instances exceeded the amount given by Dr P. as the proper number for them to stamp. I think it but reasonable that we should have in the early part of the year, at least 6 pair of each kind in advance, which would be of great advantage in fitting up &c — I have tried my Governor again in presence of all the officers, it does not vary 5 revolutions per minute by any of the ordinary operations — and when it does vary, it runs faster when the operations are heaviest, which can be obviated by good adjusting. Yours R. B. Tyler

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans January 24. 1841

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of a pair of Eagle dies. With regard to the "person unknown" of whom you speak as having more than once importuned the Secretary of the Treasury respecting the coinage at the Mint, I can form but one conjecture having in it any degree of probability, and that is, that it is Mr Benton. You recollect that in a letter of complaint which he addressed to Mr Woodbury in April last, and of which you sent me a copy, he asks, among other inquiries, whether we have been furnished with "dies for the Eagle".

In your letter to me of the 18th ult. speaking of the French gold coin received from the Sub-Treasury fund "and reported at 895, you say "this, it appears to us, must surely be a mistake." By a memorandum of gold coins deposited for recoinage, which has been furnished me by Mr Cammack and which I herewith enclose, you will perceive the same description of coin again reported at 895. That deposite, I am informed, was assayed twice with precisely the same result. I had intended to have sent you a piece of the bar, that you might have satisfied yourself as to the accuracy of Dr. Hort's assay, and so informed Dr. Riddell, but it was afterwards inadvertently melted. We have however another deposit of the same kind, and of that, I shall take care that you see a specimen.

Mr. Cammack is preparing a Statement giving all the information you ask in your letter of the 4th inst. It will be forwarded to you (together with a copy of a letter from Dr. Riddell to me) so soon as it comes into my hands. Our Silver coinage this month, will I am afraid, be small, owing to the necessity we have been under of using the smaller denominations dies — the half Dollar ones last forwarded, as I have already informed you, were but of little service —

I am very respectfully
Your obdt. Servant
J. M. Kennedy
Supt.

R. M. Patterson Esqr.
Director of the Mint
of the U.S.
Philada.

Branch Mint New Orleans
January 23. 1841.

Sir

I have the pleasure to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 8th instant covering account of expenditures for this mint during the quarter ending 31 december 1840. which will have my attention

I have a Communication from the ~~office of the~~ Comptrollers office at washington advising me of some suspended items in my account in relation to ordinary expences ~~and of~~ this Branch Mint. -

The principal ones are.

Payment made to H. Davis for services rendered during the investigation....	$ 1430. -
Amount due by Edmond Forstall, for two drafts drawn on you in august 1839 and not entered in his books &c	535.43
Payment to Thomas Slidell services during the investigation. under 3 sec of act 1839	1.000.
Robert Patterson's travelling expences to Newyork ...... $	10.75

I am, very respectfully,
yours very sincerely
HCammack
Treasurer

To Doctor R. M. Patterson

New Orleans Jan 20th 1841

Dear Sir

Since writing you the particulars of the wastage account for 1840 Mr Cammack has given me the enclosed copy of a letter which he drew up and addressed to Mr Kennedy, which will corroborate some of the statements made in my last.

But he informs me that on showing it to the Supt. he replied that no such letter as he refered to, existed; or rather that Dr Riddell had recalled it, and the mere fact of his having shewn it to Mr C. could not be considered official, In answer to which Mr C replied that Dr Riddell had made an official statement which he had proven by his books to be incorrect, and the mere fact of Mr K's having returned it to Dr R. did not shew that such a statement had not been made officially. although it gave him the privilege of assigning some other cause for his wastage.) But owing to Mr Kennedys dislike to the oppositions made in it. the enclosed letter Mr Elkins retained it, and given me the enclosed copy. he says I have a right to be informed of the facts contained in it. and that I have the privilege of making use of the information whenever my interest is concerned —

I have seen a letter this evening from Dr Patterson, which will probably call from Mr Kennedy. facts which must corroborate, much that I have stated. I perceive by it. that he has not forgotten his duty. if others have

in great haste Yours Sincerely. P B. Tyler.

An impression has been created that much of the extraordinary wastage on Silver Bullion in the melting and refining department of this Mint for the Year 1840 has been occasioned by receiving for Coinage deposits of Mexican dollars at the Standard of 897 and melting them into ingots without assay, and by the delivery of Clippings in a dirty greasy state; and the same has been the subject of a letter from the Melter and Refiner to the Superintendent –

Were this communication from the Melter and Refiner, intended only for the perusal and Consideration of the Superintendent, it would not be deemed necessary to comment on the subject, but as it is understood that it will be laid before the Director of the Mint in Philadelphia it seems proper that some explanations should be made to remove impressions it is calculated to create to the prejudice of the person charged with the delivery of Bullion and Clippings to the Melter and Refiner –

The practice of receiving small deposits of Mexican dollars and assuming the title to be 897, to save an immense trouble to the Melter and Refiner was commenced in this Mint about the middle of the Month of March with the sanction of the Superintendent and the Consent of the Melter and Refiner, the Assayer and the Treasurer. It was considered, from the assays made in this Mint since the beginning of its operations that this title was a perfectly safe one to the Mint as an average one. A similar practice in the Mint at Philadelphia had caused no inconvenience there –

No failures in the melting of ingots Nor other inconvenience on account of this practice having been made known, it was continued here until the end of December, since which time the Melter and Refiner refuses to receive Mexican dollars at 897 he says they occasion a loss to the Mint and should be fixed at a lower title.

The Books of the Treasurer's Office show the deposits of –

Silver Bullion in the Mint for Coinage during the Year 1840 to be 572 926 92 Ounces. Of this amount only 90 576 $\frac{00}{00}$ ounces appear to be in Mexican dollars ~~received~~ at 897 without assay, ~~and~~ not 1/8 of the whole as ~~a one time~~ stated by the Melter and Refiner — One other deposit made by the Bank of Louisiana weighing 17 333 ounces is entered at 897 on the Register, there is no evidence on the Books that this was melted, but according to the recollection of the Treasurer and the Weighmaster no deposite of this magnitude has been received without melting

The ingots delivered by the Melter and Refiner to the Coiner during the year are as follows

Up to the 24 May, when the big pot was first used in melting 392 741 60 ounces which averaged 894.80 fine

After the 24 May 704 764 35 Ounces which averaged 899.00 The whole of which were received as Standard Ingots, at 900 fine and the gain on them after deducting the weight of Clippings returned say 664 540 68, is more than enough to counterbalance any loss on the unassayed dollars. It follows then that the Mint cannot have lost by this practice, for if the dollars ran lower than was anticipated, the Ingots were also lower and the quantity of dollars received in this way has been far too small to have much influence on the Melts even if they had been all under 897 which was hardly possible.

The delivery of both Clippings and Ingots has been the cause of some unpleasantness to the Officers of the Mint. The Clippings have been brought to the Scales by the Coiner, as clean as he has assured the Treasurer as he can possibly get them without pickling, which he has not been required to do, and which he says is not practised in Philadelphia, and although the Melter and Refiner has sometimes said that they could be made cleaner, he has never been desired to receive any against his will —

New Orleans
January 20. 1841

Reported assays of gold coin deposited for Coinage

	Deposits No 86.	H. Bean & Co.	Sovereigns	914 Fine
	87.	Sub Treasury	Sovereigns	914. "
✓	88	do	42 Bogota 11 popayana 16 mexican 11½ mixed } doubloons	860. "
	89	do.	20 & 40 franc pieces	895 "
	90.	do	Amn Eagles old Coinage	911.
	92.	James Hepburn	Columbian doubloons. said Bogota;	867.
	93.	Jno Bertrand	Sovereigns	914.
	94.	P. B. Tyler	Thalers	892.

✓ one eighth of a doubloon - said to be counterfeit.

4

Package no 1 Contains

Silver assay Coins	Jany	25	$ 4.00	✓	
" " "	"	30	3.80	✓	
Gold " "	"	30	30.00	✓✓	
Silver " "	Feby	6	1.20		
" " "	"	27	9.70		
Gold " "	"	27	10.00	✓	
Silver " "	Mch	6	3.00		
Gold " "	"	31	10.00	✓	
Silver " "	April	20	2.90		
" " "	"	24	7.00		
" " "	"	30	3.70		
Gold " "	"	30	10.00	✓	$ 95.30 ✓

Package no 2 Contains

Silver assay Coins	May ~~May~~	3	.20		
		7 "	5.20		
		12 "	.60		
		15 "	1.05		
		20 "	.30		
		22 "	.40		
		28 "	3.20		
		29 "	.80		
		31 "	4.95		
Gold do do	"	31 "	10.00	✓	~~$ 26.70~~
Silver do do	June	5	1.20		
		12	2.80		
		19	4.15		
		26	2.00		
		30	10.85		
Gold do do		30	10.00	✓	$ 57.70

$ 153.00

Package No 3. Contains

forward $ 153.00

Silver Alloy Coins July	14 —	$ .60	
	17 —	.60	
	24 —	3.25	
	27 28	20 2.00	
	29 —	4.75	
	31 —	2.35	
	~~28~~ —	~~2.00~~	
~~Silver~~ do do Aug	10 —	2. —	
	12 —	.50	
	18 —	3.00	
	21 —	1.00	
Gold do do	5 —	10.00 ✓	
do do do	10 —	5.00 ✓	
do do do	18 —	2.50 ✓	
Silver do do Nov.	26 —	2.00	
" do do Dec	6 —	2.00	
	14 —	4.00	
	18 —	4.00	
	28 —	3.60	
	30 —	3.15	$ 56.50
			$ 209.50

✓ Silver $ 112.00 ✓
✓ Gold 97.50 ✓
$ 209.50

No. 1st Package Contains Silver Coins	$ 35.30
2 do " " "	37.70
3 do " " "	39.00
	$ 112.00

No 1 Package Contains Gold Coins —	$ 60.00
2 do " " "	20.00
3 do " " "	17.50
	$ ~~97.00~~
Gold	$ 97.50

New Orleans Jan 18th 1841

Dear Sir — I have been thinking for several days past that I would write to you, but having so much to communicate, I have been waiting for more leisure until it actually appears too much for me to accomplish at one time. —— I have finished my annual settlement with the Treasurer quite satisfactorily, requiring for wastage as follows

Silver recd from the Treasurer 1.126.199.56 } ounces allowance by law 2242
" Returned to " " 1.125.549.56 } " differnce for wastage 650 oz
Gold Recd — 30.378.349 } wastage allowed by law 45 ounces
" Returned 30.363.654 } difference for wastage — 14 ounces
which you will see is much more favourable than the M & R's
Silver requird by M&R 2.300 ounces, Gold 63.^{dec}046 ounces }
allowance by law about 2.500 " " 63.046 " }

I saw a letter from Dr Patterson a few days since, in which he expresses great surprise at certain deposits of Mexican dollars, having fallen so low in standard, made by the Sub Treasury, which could reflect upon no one but the Melter & Refiner. Also that the officers could not claim the whole amount allowed by law, without having been guilty of gross carelessness, or subject to theft to a large amount. Now I think when he learns that not only the Sub Treas. deposits have fallen below the established standard, but that complaints are frequently made by persons who deposite here to a large amount and that M.R. refuses to take any more Mex. dolls. for more than 895. together with his requiring such a large amount for wastage, that the fullest expression of his letter, above refered to, will be called in requisition. I wish Dr Patterson could know, for a single week, all the disgraceful circumstances that occur in this mint and as some of them, in some degree effect me, I will relate them to you, and so far as you think proper, you are at liberty to repeat them to Dr Patterson. — Previous to the Presidential election, Dr R. frequently stated to me, that he should require but little wastage. But immediately after that event, he commenced to assert that he should require all the law would allow at which time he had not weighed his bullion or made any estimate. But to justify his claim began shaping his way of making it appear, that when he was the loser, I was the gainer. which being entirely without foundation, I took no notice of it. until the day of reckoning.

I have to day, had a conversation with Mr Cammack who appears completely outdone with Dr R. presumptions and repations conduct. He says if Dr R's every day transactions were properly reported to Dr Patterson, they would be sufficient to show ~~him~~. that his propensities ~~were~~ entirely unfitted him for such a responsible situation. The Supt takes a very strange course of late by which he shields Dr R. from his true deserts. I understand he has not yet reported to Dr Patterson, our anual settlement. and was inquiring but a day or two since, if the Director would discover how much wastage Dr R. had required, if he did not inform him of it. By which is evident that he does not intend to forward any evidence against Dr R. who appears to be cunningly managing him under of political influence. — Dr Riddell states in his letter to the Supt. that a great portion of this wastage has occurred in his transactions with me. Now I can show, if that assertion reaches Dr Patterson. that the amount claimed by Dr R. for wastage is not the difference between the amount of bullion delivered to him and the amount returned by him. for on the 31st of Dec he gave the Treasurer a statement of the bullion in his possession, with the weight & value of each parcel affixed. but when the Treasurer weighed it he found two bars of silver containing gold, weighing about 1.000 ounces. which were not enumerated in the statement, while every other item came out correct, as also the calculations. consequently he could not require so much for wastage as his statement called for by just the amount of these bars. But on discovering this Dr Riddell requested the privilege of reexamining the whole before it was entered on the Treas. books. — It was at this time that the Treas. informed me of it and said Dr R. would manage it so as to claim them all in his wastage. and sure enough. the next day when the settlement was made. he had estimated a parcel of grain just enough less, to make his account correspond with the first statement. Now this transaction alone, if properly reported would be sufficient, in my estimation, to convict him of fraud. And our Supt. is well informed of it. but acts upon the principle of his conversation yesterday with Mr Cammack. when Mr C. said the reputation was fast sinking, by which the character of every officer was more or less effected and that it was his duty to report such disgracefull transactions to Dr Patterson to which Mr Kenedy replied "who wishes to bring an officer into difficulty" and even went so far as to request and urge Mr C. to receive the Mexican dolls at 895. — And in regard to the wastage, told me he would sign any warrant for Dr R. provided it came within the limits prescribed by the law, when the law distinctly says he shall use his discretion, to which I refered him particularly. when he asked my advice in the matter. It was several days before he signed the warrant, during which time he tried every means he could think of to clear himself of the responsibility. Such as requesting the Treas. to state to him in writing that the requirement for wastage was within the limits of the law, which Mr C. refused. He then tried to effect the same thing through Mr C. clerk. which he discovered & prevented. till at last reduced to the only resource, he laid his difficulties before Dr Riddell and requested him to make ~~him~~ a statement in writing, of the probable cause of the wastage, which would justify him in signing the warrant. When Dr R. ~~stated to him~~ wrote him a letter stating that. he had been taking Mexican dollars at a nominal value of 897. when in reality they only 895. and that 7/8ths of his whole amount of bullion had been been delivered to him at that value without assaying. which with some other trivial causes, must account for his great amount of wastage — with this the Supt. was satisfied and shewed the letter to Mr Cammack who *flared* up a little, and declared it to be a fabrication that would not stand the test. and on examining the books shewed the Supt. that only about 1/8 or less than 1/4 instead of 7/8 of his bullion had been delivered to him without assaying. at which the Supt. immediately informed Dr R. of it. and told he must assign some other reason. Dr R. replied that he had made a mistake and if he would *return* his letter he would alter it. with which the Supt. unhesitatingly complied. when in the same half hour Dr Riddell wrote another letter in which he discovers the great loss to have been, in receiving clippings of me by which he says he has lost from [illegible] to two ounces on every draught by the extraneous matter which they contained. Fortunate for me. that so far as my interest or reputation is assailed, it is by one whose whole course bears such evidence on every side, of his true character.

A few days since Mr Cammack deposited some French Golds, of which the standard was established, and finding them to fall so far below their value. he complained of it to the Supt. and requested that pieces might be sent to Phila. for assaying. to which the Supt. agreed, and told the M&R. not to melt the bars, untill the pieces were taken off. but in a day or two after, when Mr Cammack urged it again the Supt. found that the bars were melted. *So what could he do about it?* Thus it goes from day to day, untill the instances are innumerable. The great point now, appears to be, about the standard of mexican dollars, the melting of which has been suspended untill it can be determined. Mr Cammack is determined to have every deposite melted unless the Standard is fixed at 897. he says it is the only thing upon which the Mint depends for support, and if the Standard is reduced to 895. we shall never receive another deposite except for small coins. — I have explained to Mr Cammack one particular, by which Dr Riddle appears caught in his own trap for instance! — Dr R. complains that he had been taking Mexican dollars at too low a standard without knowing it till he made the discovery by experiments made after he found his wastage to be so great. — Now compare the facts? He has always been particular to melt Mex. dolls. by themselves, he has made his calculations at 897. and added the proper proportion of fine silver to bring them to the Standard for ingots. — And has never failed in a melt, but once, and then he said he discovered a mistake in his calculation of fine silver. — Now in a lot of $20.000 you will see how impossible it would be for him to have added 30. or 40 oz of fine silver, more than he intended without knowing it. ~~Ba~~ Bah!! —

I suppose you have heard before this of our great months work. of $300.000 which would probably have been much greater if I could have obtained the ingots To shew you Dr R's sense of propriety, I will relate one more circumstance. A few days since when my department had been entirely out of work, I reported it to the Supt. who said he was sure there were some ingots ready, for Dr R. had promised him two days before, to make a melt, and requested me to go with him to Dr R. who met us with the amusing tale, that one of his men, in consequence of being paid off the day before, had got drunk, and neglected to make the fire in the morning, and when he did come the *next day*, he was still so drunk, that he had sent him away to get sober — which in effect amused the Supt. but made me very angry, when I told them that a man never would get intoxicated but *once* in my department. Dr said this was a very faithfull man &c, and he did not wish to part with him. I told him his faithfullness was fully exemplified, as all the Mint had felt. —

When Dr Riddell had all his Bullion ready for the annual settlement with the Treasurer, an order came from the Judge of the *Criminal* Court, for him and his Brother to appear for their sentence, which can be 60, but not less than 1 day in the city callaboose — but their lawyer ~~of~~ reminded the Judge that the civil suit was still pending, and they could not then be sentenced. But thank Justice, the civil suit is over, and damages given against him, I understand, for $2,000 — So the next time he is sent for, the Mint will have a holiday. ——— unless the call comes from the same source of the one he had yesterday, when a bold ...... young woman made her appearance — in the hall, in front of my rolling room door, demanding of the porter in high tones, to see Mr Riddell, declaring with profanity, that nothing should compell her to leave the place untill she saw him, as she had at last learned his name and where he lived, if he was not in, she would remain till he came in — in the mean time Dr Riddell & brother went into the Melting room and locked the door, where they would not leave untill the noise of the woman and the laughter of the workmen brought Dr Hort down, who made one or two unsuccessfull attempts before the matter was settled —— I will stop the subject, but not for want of material for I fear I have already wearied your patience with the rehearsal of a subject at which I am myself disgusted.

Mr Bronson handed me your letter containing your order for the money for the fans, — which he has since collected. I think he is not doing much with the machinery. He may understand the making and using, but I fear he does not understand selling well. I believe it is a good business, if rightly taken hold of. I spent about a month, the first summer after I came out here, in the country with the planters, in anticipation of going into that business. —

I wish you could do something with the counting machine, as it is really a valuable machine and the family are in need of the benefit of it. if there is any prospect of my going to Phila this summer, I should prefer leaving it till then. —

The children all enjoy excellent health and are studying French and Music. we have made a class of our family 7 in number, and *Parley vous* three evenings in a week — little Patterson makes fun in French — Please remember my respects to your family

Yours Sincerely — J. B. Tyler

Melter & Refiner's Office Branch Mint
New Orleans, January 11th 1841.

J. M. Kennedy Esqr
Superintendent
Sir.

I this day carefully melted down in a large clay Pot, and thoroughly stirred, near 8000 ounces, of Dollars, mainly Mexican, being a fair representation, of the general run of Mexican Dollars, so called, deposited in this Mint, inasmuch as there were 22 distinct deposits from different sources. I had received them all at the assumed title of 897th. The Assayer has found the title of the same by actual assay to be 895. The principal instances in which we have, in a certain and unexceptionable manner, got the title of large sums, of these mixed Mexican dollars, have been in deposits from our Subtreasury, in respect to which I have several times felt myself awkwardly surprised to find the titles turning out 895th & 896th: for, though in every such instance a profit has accrued to Government from the recoinage, yet this profit has been about one fourth less than expected.

I am now satisfied that the general average title of Mexican and mixed Dollars, presented at this Mint for recoinage, will fall short of 897th. In consenting a year ago to receive them at that rate, I was guided principally by the experience of the Mother Mint, as well as in part by the result of assays made at the time, on a few large deposits from the Bank of Louisiana. But it is probable that there are more inferior dollars in circulation here than at the North, on account of our proximity to Mexico, Texas, and the West Indies, and consequently the great facilities offered to illicit traders for introducing such dollars into circulation, without exciting suspicion.

Much of the Silver bullion deposited for coinage in 1840, has been Mexican dollars, (with other coins admixed) received by me at 897^{m} without assay, and notwithstanding the extraordinary care I have taken to prevent waste, I find myself compelled to claim, on annual settlement, a pretty large silver wastage; This I think attributable to several causes

1st To the aforesaid Dollars being of lower standard than 897^{m}.

2d To loss of weight on Silver clippings received, owing to adherent dirt, there being no corresponding or counterbalancing loss of weight on the ingots delivered. From experiments several times performed by myself, I infer that the loss on clippings has been 1^{m} to 2^{m} — say one and a half ounces on the thousand ounces.

3d Perhaps in some degree, to the want of sufficient experience, and practical skill, in my department, in the early part of the year, especially in regard to the management of Grains coupled with the want of a grinding machine, and other appliances for working grains. Of all these conveniences we have lately possessed ourselves.

I will here frankly acknowledge, which I do with pleasure, that I am under great obligations, to the accomplished Officers, of the Parent Mint, for material & practical information, on all the subjects connected with my department, communicated during my visit to that institution in August last, and most of all am I indebted to them for a correct knowledge of the best method of working Grains.

From the large amount of parting and casting Gold, and Silver ingots, accomplished during the months November & December, I found as the close of the year approached, that it would be impossible so to work ~~and~~ smelt the grains, the Bullion on old pots, or iron implements - in acid, &c &c as to ascertain their exact value, and being compelled by our instructions, to make my annual settlement, and forward my accounts, actually on the 31st of December, I did what you directed the best I could; deeming it proper under the circumstances, to make a moderate and safe estimate of those grains &c whose approximate value only could be ascertained.

You direct me to report on the Scraps, which the Mint has not the means of working up, what their amount and value may be when the grains shall have been all wrought. I can not well tell, but suppose there will be in them, from eight to twelve hundred ounces, of Silver. When prepared it has been my intention, as you are aware, to ship them to Messrs. Greenfield & Longman, Sweep Smelters New York, I do not suppose they will be ready to ship before the first of March.

I have claimed full wastage on Gold, as a matter of safety, because I have had no time to work up the Gold grains, as they deserve, and the amount of gold they may contain is consequently somewhat uncertain. I think it possible that upon working them up fully, I may find something to report to the credit of the Mint; yet I do not feel confident of this, because until quite recently, I have been compelled to melt all the Gold, in the Silver melting room.

Respectfully Your obt. Servt.
J. L. Riddell Melter & Rr

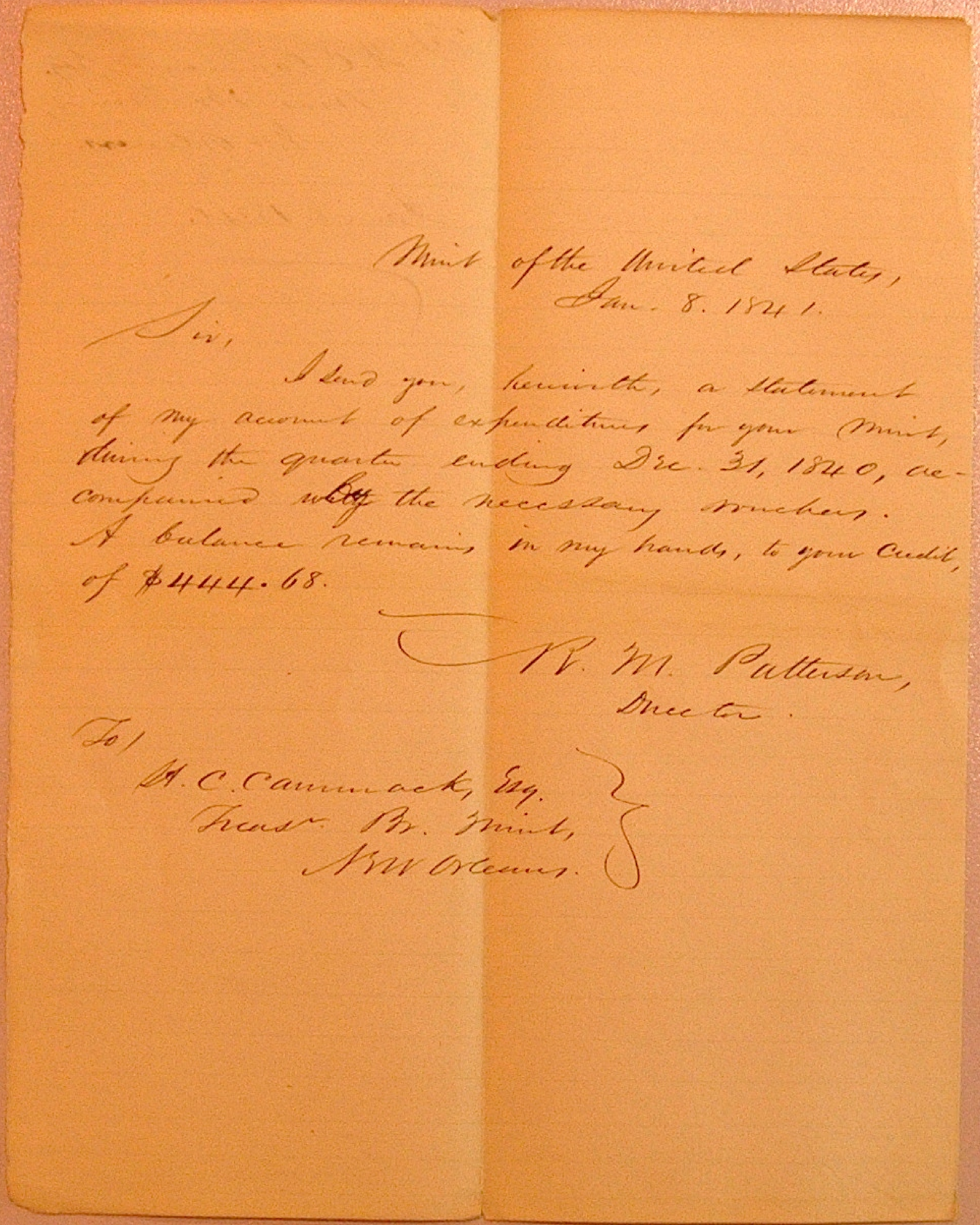
P. S. The Assayer has obligingly furnished me with random excerpts from his Books, of the titles of low standard Mexican dollars, assayed by him during a short period of 1839, which confirms me in my opinion that there are in New Orleans, in circulation or in Bank, an unusual share of low standard Standard Dollars. I furnish [illegible] the same.

J. L. R.

Mexican Dollars.

W. F. Vigers	20. March 1839.	—	872.
W. H. Kerr P.M.	25. —	—	618.
L. Pary	6. April	—	888.
P. Fihn	—	— —	894
J. D. Archer	—	— —	893.
Anty. Costa	14.	— —	894
J. R. Conner	—	— —	885
M. Felton	—	— —	890.
P. Casas	19.	— —	895
J. C. Folly.	22.	—	893
S. H. Samuels.	29.	—	895
Jos. Villarubia	—	— —	895
G. Gelpi	1 May	—	895
F. Marks.	2	— —	895
Chs. Mapes	—	—	894
B. Peffett	3.	—	892
S. Vivesa	7.	—	892
Caldwell & Co	8.	—	888
B. Ougatte	—	—	894
P. White	10.	—	895
J. Gelpi	11	—	892
M. P. Tomsly	11 June		889

O. Lane	28. June 1839 —	885
J. A. Wiggin	11. July —	887
P. Peffett	25. —	888
J. Martentini	—	888
James Ross —	9. August —	887



Mint of the United States,
Jan. 8. 1841.

Sir,

I send you, herewith, a statement of my account of expenditures for your Mint, during the quarter ending Dec. 31, 1840, accompanied ~~with~~ by the necessary vouchers. A balance remains in my hands, to your credit, of $444.68.

R. M. Patterson,
Director.

To
H. C. Cammack, Esq.
Treasr. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

Mint U.S. — Jan. 4/41.

Sir,

I have sent to you, under the frank of the Secretary of the Treasury, a pair of Eagle dies. I have not myself deemed it advisable that you should go to the trouble and expense of the fixtures for this coinage, as you have so little gold deposited with you; but some individual, (unknown to me,) has twice complained to the Secretary, that Eagle dies have not been sent to your Mint, — and I must therefore suppose that ~~he, at least, has~~ there is some reason for wishing this variety of coinage, of which ~~is unknown~~ I am ignorant. It is now for you to determine whether it is to be made or not. — It is proper to state, for the information of the Coiner, that the diameter of the Eagle is 1.05 inch, — and the allowance for the expansion of the collar in hardening 0.004.

I will thank you to ascertain, as early as possible, (if you have not already done so,) the wastage required by the Melter & Refiner, and the Coiner, for the year which has just closed. A hint in the extract which you sent me of a note from Mr. Cammack makes me uneasy on this subject. You will of course accompany this report with a statement of the whole amount of the deliveries made by the Treasurer to the Melter and Coiner. — I ~~would~~ will be glad if you can also furnish me with a statement of the finenesses, reported by the assayer, of the several melts of ingots, both of silver and gold, delivered by the Melter to the Treasurer. — It is also desirable, in connexion with this inquiry, that I should know the loss allowed on melting the different varieties of deposits. This is a more difficult matter for a statement, as I cannot ask for a list of all your weights before and after melting. Perhaps, however, you could, without inconvenience, give me such a list for some one month, or other suitable period, that may include all the varieties of deposits.

It may be not unimportant that I should give you, here, a statement of the wastage, at this Mint, during the past year, on the amounts delivered by the Treasurer to the Melter & the Coiner. They are as follows:

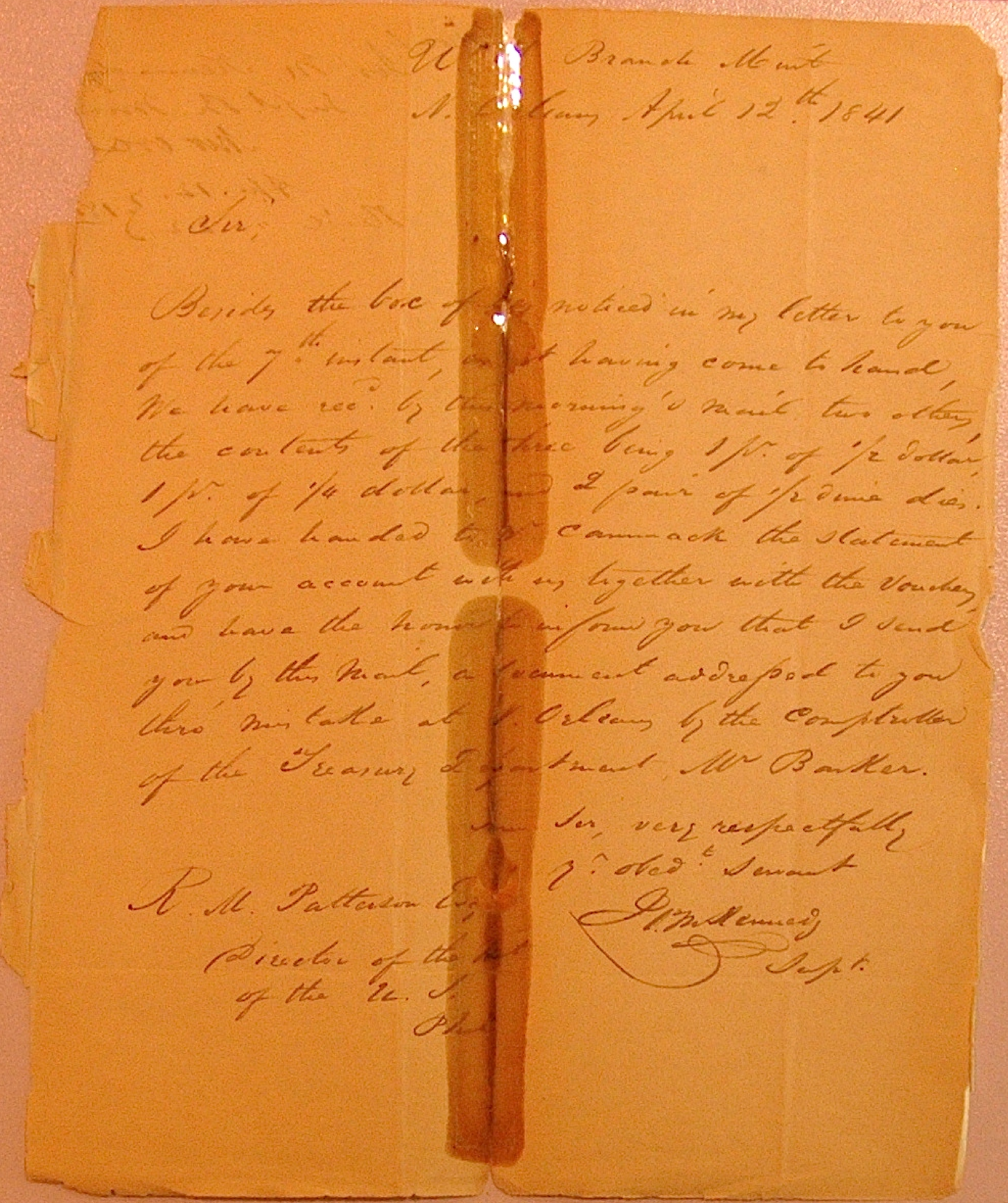
Melter. — Gold 0.000 Millièmes. Silver 0.755 ~~do~~.
Coiner. " 0.281 " " 0.238 "

(To)
Jos. M. Kennedy, Esq.
Supt. Br. Mint, New Orleans

R.M.P.
Director.

P.S. — In the close of this letter, I have given the result of the Wastage, here, in Millièmes; but, as I wish you to give details I will add now the amounts of the deliveries & Wastage in ounces. They are as follows:

Chief-Coiner ..	Silver	delivd.	1,474,927.15 ozs.	Wastage	350.50 ozs.
" "	Gold	"	105,860.020 "	"	29.767 "
Melter & Refiner.	Silver	"	1,483,373.75 "	"	1120.85 "
" "	Gold	"	105,933.916 "	"	0.000 "



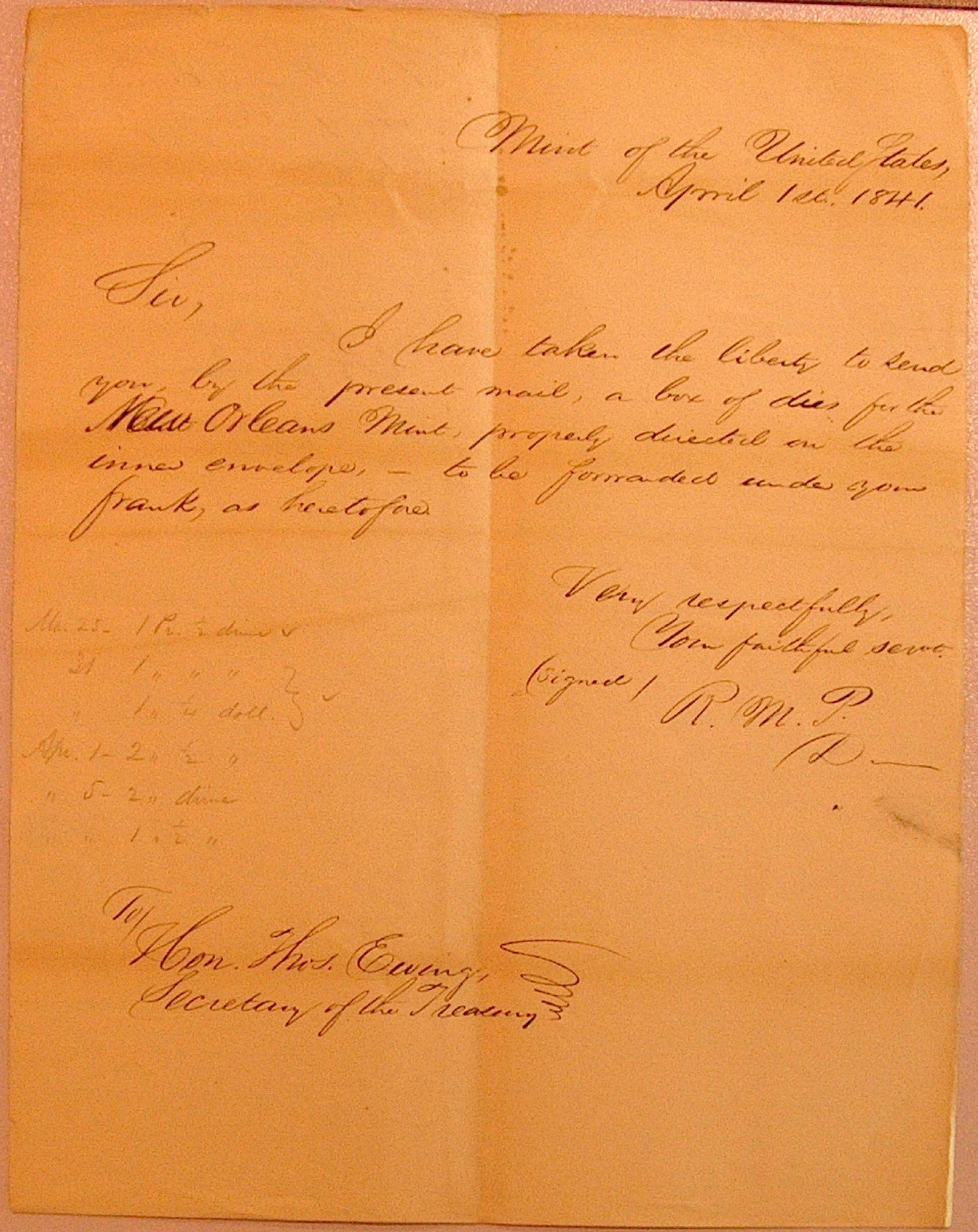
U. [illegible] Branch Mint
N. [illegible]leans April 12th 1841

Sir,

Besides the box of [illegible] noticed in my letter to you of the 7th instant, as not having come to hand, We have recd by this morning's mail two others, the contents of the three being 1 pr. of ½ dollar, 1 pr. of ¼ dollar, and 2 pair of ½ dime dies. I have handed to [illegible] Cammack the statement of your account with us together with the vouchers, and have the honor to inform you that I send you by this mail, a document addressed to you thro' mistake at [illegible] Orleans by the Comptroller of the Treasury Department, Mr Barker.

I am Sir, very respectfully
Yr obedt Servant
J. M. Kennedy
Supt.

R. M. Patterson Esq.
Director of the [illegible]
of the U. S.
Phil



Mint of the United States,
April 1st. 1841.

Sir,

I have taken the liberty to send you, by the present mail, a box of dies for the New Orleans Mint, properly directed on the inner envelope, — to be forwarded under your frank, as heretofore.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful serv.
(Signed) R. M. P.
D—

Mr. 25 – 1 Pr. ½ dime ✓
31 1 " " "
" 1 " ¼ doll. ✓
Apr. 1 – 2 " ½ "
" 5 – 2 " dime
" " 1 " ½ "

To/
Hon. Thos. Ewing,
Secretary of the Treasury.

Mint U.S.

Philad^a, March 31, 1841.

Dear Sir,

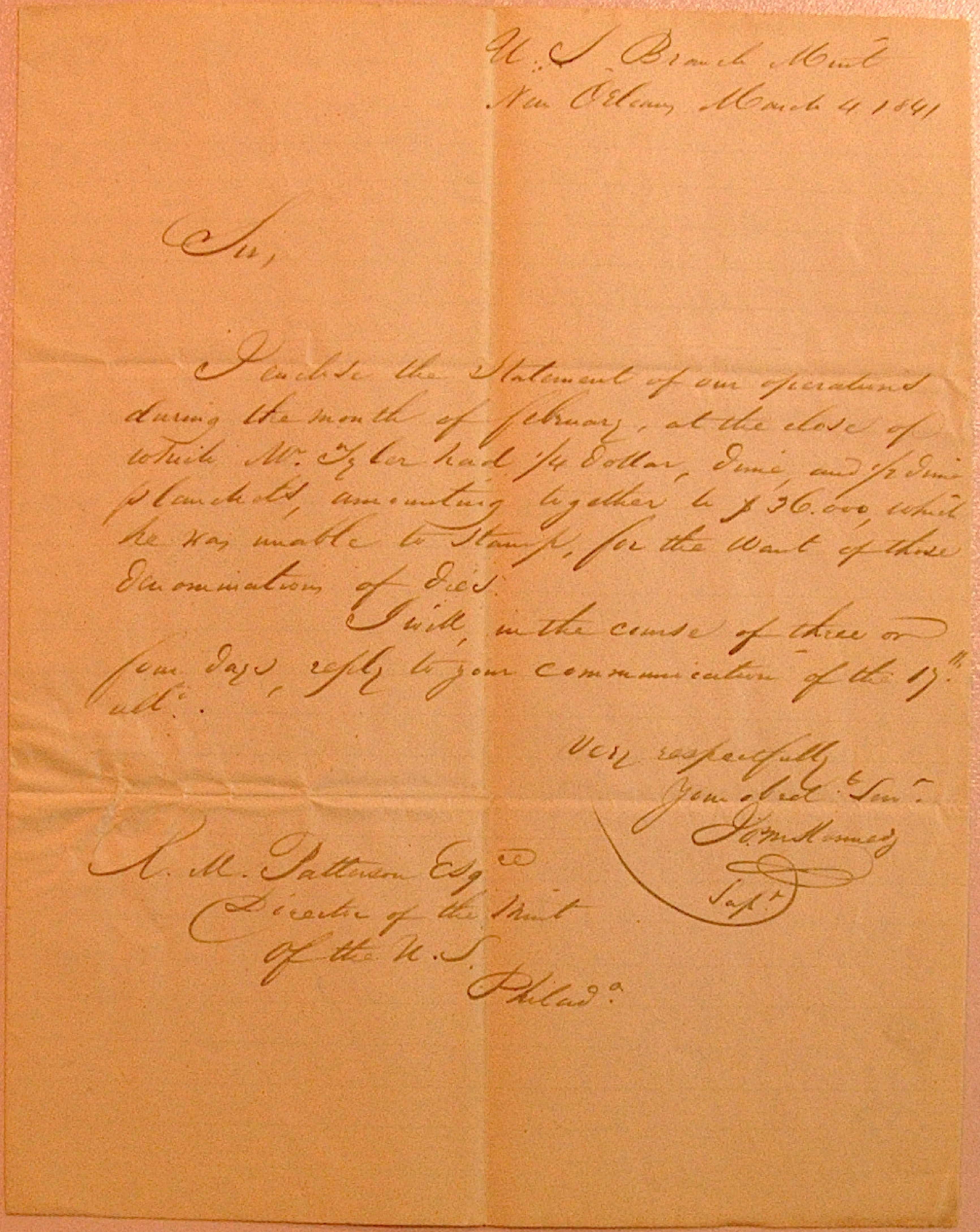
I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th inst.

Head-dies for dimes and half-dimes, ~~and~~ for 1841, were sent by me to the New Orleans Mint on the 21st of December, — the old tail-dies being ~~so hard~~ considered still sufficient. At this Mint, we have not yet used new tail-dies for the small coinage, and the dime die has struck more than 200,000 pieces. A requisition for new dime and half-dime dies was ~~sent to us~~ received by us on the 12th inst., (under date of Feb 27th,) ~~and~~ the dimes were sent on the 24th, — the half-dimes are just ready. ~~to be~~

I have marked, with great attention, the remarks in your letter as to some other points connected with the New Orleans Mint. I thank you for the interest you have always taken in this matter, and will take care that it do not subject you to any personal annoyance.

R.M.P.

To/
Jacob Barker, Esq.,
New Orleans.



U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans March 4 1841

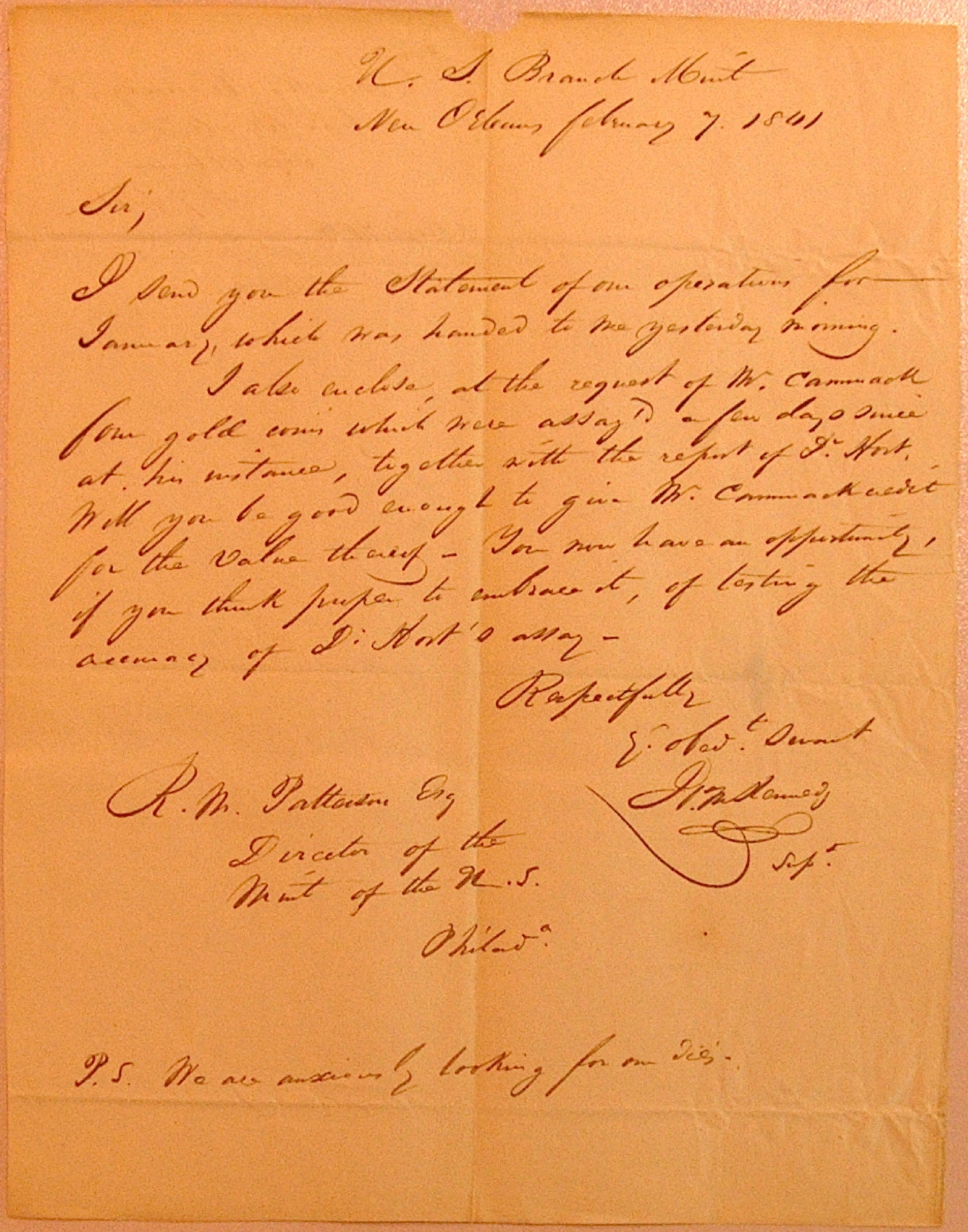
Sir,

I enclose the Statement of our operations during the month of February, at the close of which Mr. Tyler had 1/4 Dollar, Dime and 1/2 Dime planchets, amounting together to $36.000, which he was unable to Stamp, for the Want of those denominations of Dies.

I will, in the course of three or four days, reply to your communication of the 17th ult.

Very respectfully
Your obdt. Servt.
J. M. Kennedy
Supt.

R. M. Patterson Esqre.
Director of the Mint
Of the U. S.
Philada.



U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans February 7. 1841

Sir,

I send you the Statement of our operations for January, which was handed to me yesterday morning.

I also enclose, at the request of Mr. Cammack four gold coins which were assay'd a few days since at his instance, together with the report of Dr. Hort. Will you be good enough to give Mr. Cammack credit for the value thereof – You now have an opportunity, if you think proper to embrace it, of testing the accuracy of Dr. Hort's assay –

Respectfully
Y. Obedt. Servant
J. M. Kennedy
Supt.

R. M. Patterson Esq
Director of the
Mint of the U. S.
Philada.

P. S. We are anxiously looking for our dies.

New Orleans 24 April 1841

Dear Sir,

I am in receipt of your esteemed favour of the 31 ulto. I am much obliged for the information it contains. One set of dies for Dimes were received, & produced only 140.000 pieces before they gave out, 4000 of which do not adjust well, therefore cannot be delivered until a further supply of dies are received.

Two sets of dies for half Dimes have also been received with which they are now at work, but they will not last for striking a moiety of those wanted. As yet my friends have not been enabled to get Dimes or half Dimes for deposits made in Decr & Jany last. The demand here is very great, & if it could be promptly supplied without serious inconvenience to the public it would go far to popularise the institution, and altho' there is more trouble & labour in making small than large coin this is of no consequence to the Branch here as the men in the Coiners Department do not find any thing like full employment and their full wages all the time going on. This I am told arises from the dilatory proceedings of the Melters' & Refiners' department.

If you will be pleased to see that a further supply of Dies for half as well as for whole dimes is forwarded by an early mail you will do our citizens an essential service, and also promote the —

the interest of the New Orleans Branch Mint —

Very Respectfully
Your afm friend
Jacob Parker

To/ R. M. Patterson Esq.
Director of the
United States Mint
Philadelphia

U. S. Branch Mint N. Orleans
April 7th. 1841.

Sir,

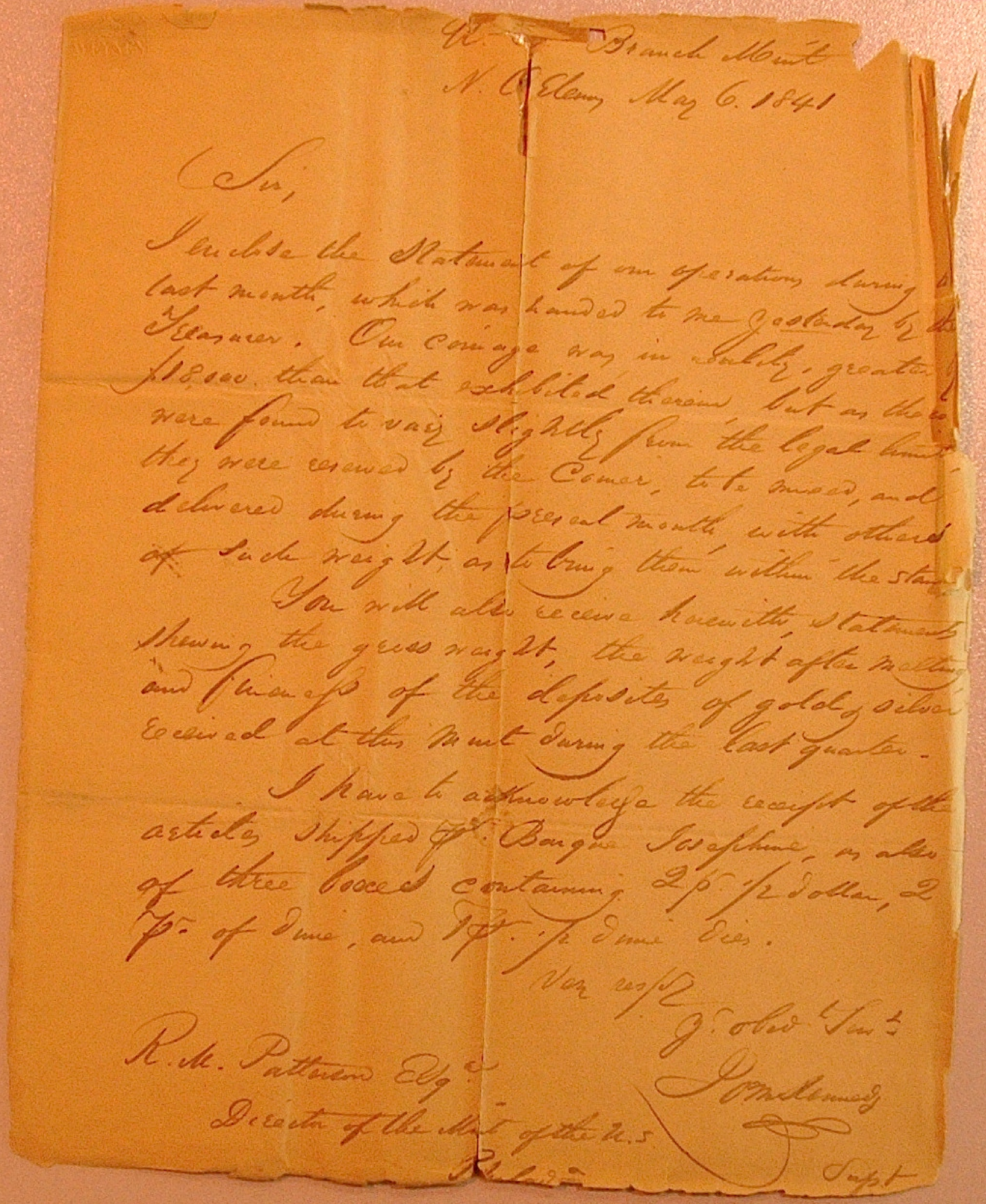
I enclose our Statement for March, which was handed to me on the 5th instant. I kept it back for one day, intending, as I mentioned to you in my letter of the 3d. that it should be accompanied by a memorandum of the late assays made at our Mint. This promise I find I will not be able to fulfill for a few days owing to the quantity of business in the Treasurer's office, consequent always upon the close of a quarter.

Our coinage for March is very small, but this is accounted for by the fact of our having worked, at the commencement of it none but the half dollar press, (the small dies for which we had a large amount of planchets prepared, having, as I informed you in my last report given out before the end of February) and of our having been, for more than half the month, without any dies at all — We recd. on the fourth instant two boxes, containing 1 pr. of ½ dollar 1 pr. of ¼ dollar, and 1 pr. of dime dies, and another box is announced by the Secretary of the Treasury, as having been put in the Mail which left Washington on the 27th. ult. It has not yet come to hand.

I have the honor to be
very respectfully
Your obd.t Ser.t

J. W. Stanly
Supt.

R. M. Patterson Esq.
Director of the
Mint of the U. S.
Philad.a



U. Branch Mint
N. Orleans May 6. 1841

Sir,

I enclose the Statement of our operations during t last month, which was handed to me yesterday by the Treasurer. Our coinage was in reality, greater $18,500. than that exhibited therein but as these were found to vary slightly from the legal limit they were reserved by the Coiner, to be mixed, and delivered during the present month with others of such weight, as to bring them within the stan

You will also receive herewith, statements shewing the gross weight, the weight after melting and fineness of the deposites of gold & silver received at this Mint during the last quarter.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of the articles shipped pr. Barque Josephine, as also of three boxes containing 2 pr. ½ dollar, 2 pr. of dime, and 1 pr. ½ dime dies.

Very resp.y
Y.r obed.t Serv.t
J. M. Kennedy
Sup.t

R. M. Patterson Esq.re
Director of the Mint of the U.S.
Philad.a

Statement of the Deposites and Coinage, at the Branch Mint at New Orleans, in the month of February 1841.

Deposites

Kind of Deposites	Gross Weight after melting		Standard Weight		Value before deductions		Value after deductions		Total Value before deductions	
	Ounces	dw	Ounces	dw	Dollars	cts	Dollars	cts	Dollars	cts
Gold:										
No deposites received this month										
Silver:										
No deposites received this month										

Coinage

Denomination	Number of pieces	Value		Total Value	
		Dollars	cts	Dollars	cts
Gold:					
Half Eagles,	2.000	10.000	00		
				10.000	00
Silver:					
Half Dollars,	96.000	48.000	00		
Dimes	70.000	7.000	00		
	168,000			55.000	00
Total Coinage				65.000	00

Branch Mint of the United States, New Orleans
Treasurer's Office, February 27th. 1841.
H. C. Cammack
Treasurer

Statement of the Deposites and Coinage at the Branch Mint at New Orleans, in the month of January 1841.

Deposites

Kind of Deposite	Gross Weight after melting		Standard Weight		Value before deductions		Value after deductions		Total Value before deductions	
	Ounces	dec	Ounces	dec	Dollars	cts	Dollars	cts	Dollars	cts
Gold:										
U. S. Bullion	78	78	83	741	1557	97	1557	97		
Foreign Bullion	3	38	3	346	62	25	62	25		
U. S. Coins (old Standard)	29	55	29	835	555	06	555	06		
Foreign Coins	1980	47	1962	541	36.512	29	36.512	29		
									38.687	57
Silver:										
Foreign Bullion	245	50	256	41	298	36	297	55		
Foreign Coins	78237	30	77.808	19	90.540	35	90.461	96		
									90.838	71
							Total deposites		129.526	28

Coinage

Denomination	Number of pieces	Value		Total Value	
		Dolls	cts	Dolls.	cts
Gold:					
Half Eagles	6.300	31.500	00		
				31.500	00
Silver:					
Half Dollars,	52.000	26.000	00		
Dimes,	90000	9.000	00		
Half Dimes,	100000	5.000	00		
				40000	00
	248,300				
Total Coinage				71.500	00

Branch Mint of the United States, New Orleans.
Treasurer's Office, February 1st 1841.
A. Cammack
Treasurer

Statement of the Deposites and Coinage at the Branch Mint at New Orleans, in the month of March 1841.

Deposites

Kind of Deposites	Gross Weight after melting		Standard Weight		Value before deductions		Value after deductions		Total Value before deductions	
	Ounces	dec	Ounces	dec	Dollars	cts	Dollars	cts	Dollars	cts
Gold:										
Foreign Coins,	487	36	476	572	8.866	44	8.866	44		
									8.866	44
Silver:										
U. S. Bullion,	96	90	87	53	101	85	101	53		
Foreign Bullion,	522	40	525	01	610	91	609	17		
Foreign Coins,	55.765	50	55.555	63	64.646	40	64.608	59		
									65.359	16
								Total deposites	74.225	60

Coinage

Denomination	Number of pieces	Value		Total Value	
		Dollars	cts	Dollars	cts
Gold:					
Eagles,	200	2.000	00		
				2.000	00
Silver:					
Half Dollars,	28000	14.000	00		
				14.000	00
			Total Coinage	16.000	00

Branch Mint of the U. States, New Orleans
Treasurer's Office, March 31st 1841.
H Cammack
Treasurer

Statement of the Deposites and Coinage at the Branch Mint at New Orleans, in the month of May 1841.

Deposites

Kind of Deposite	Gross Weight after melting		Standard Weight		Value before deductions		Value after deductions		Total Value before deductions	
	Ounces,	dc	Ounces	dc	Dollars,	cts	Dollars,	cts	Dollars,	cts
Gold:										
Foreign Bullion,	16	34	9	804	182	40	182	40		
Foreign Coins,	405	45	398	217	7408	70	7408	70		
									7.591	10
Silver:										
Foreign Bullion,	141	50	135	84	155	06	157	89		
Foreign Coins,	74.352	90	74.050	08	86.167	15	86.083	04		
									86.325	21
Total deposites									93.916	31

Coinage

Denomination	Number of pieces	Value		Total Value	
		Dollars,	cts	Dollars,	cts
Gold:					
Eagles	500	5.000	00		
				5000	00
Silver:					
Half Dollars,	72.000	36.000	00		
Quarter Dollars,	60.000	15.000	00		
Dimes,	215.000	21.500	00		
Half Dimes,	190.000	9.500	00		
				82.000	00
	537.500				
Total Coinage				87.000	00

Branch Mint of the United States, New Orleans
Treasurer's Office, May 31st. 1841.

H. Cammack, Treasr

Statement of the Deposites and Coinage, at the Branch Mint at New Orleans, in the month of April 1841.

Deposites

Kind of Deposite	Gross Weight after melting		Standard Weight		Value before deductions		Value after deductions		Total Value before deductions	
	Ounces,	dw	Ounces,	dw	Dolls,	cts	Dolls.	cts	Dollars,	cts
Gold:										
U. S. Bullion,	13	17	13	945	259	44	259	44		
Foreign Bullion,	6	18	5	287	98	36	98	36		
Foreign Coins,	24	86	24	666	458	90	458	90		
									816	70
Silver:										
Foreign Bullion,	2.947	20	3.110	20	3.619	11	3.614	76		
Foreign Coins,	33.679	85	33.390	69	38.854	50	38.834	00		
									42.473	61
Total deposites									43.290	31

Coinage

Denomination	Number of pieces	Value		Total Value	
		Dollars,	cts	Dollars,	cts
Gold:					
Eagles,	1.000	10.000	00		
				10.000	00
Silver:					
Half Dollars,	86.000	43.000	00		
Quarter Dollars,	52.000	13.000	00		
Dimes,	70.000	7.000	00		
Half Dimes,	120.000	6.000	00		
				69.000	00
329,000					
Total Coinage				79.000	00

Branch Mint of the United States, New Orleans.
Treasurer's Office, April 30th 1841.
H. Cammack
Treasr.

Statement of the Deposites and Coinage, at the Branch Mint, at New Orleans, in the month of November 1841.

Deposites

Kind of Deposite	Gross Weight after Melting		Standard Weight		Value before Deductions		Value after Deductions		Total Value before Deductions	
	Ounces	dec	Ounces	dec	Dollars	Cts	Dollars	Cts	Dollars	Cts
Gold										
Foreign Coins	134	52	134	036	2.493	69	2.493	69		
U.S. Coins (Old Stand.)	8	55	gr 8	664	161	19	161	19		
									2,654	88
Silver										
Foreign Bullion	956	30	932	29	1.084	83	1.081	68		
Foreign Coins	74885	15	74.507	94	86.699	85	86.564	56		
									87,784	68
						Total	Deposites		$90.439	56

Coinage

Denomination	Number of Pieces	Value		Total Value	
		Dolls	Cts	Dolls	Cts
Gold					
None.					
Silver					
Dimes	100.000	10.000	00		
				10.000	00
	Total Coinage.			$10.000	00

Branch Mint of the United States New Orleans
Treasurer's Office November 30th 1841.
A. C. Cammack
Treasr.

U. S. Branch Mint N. Orleans
Dec 10. 1841.

Sir,

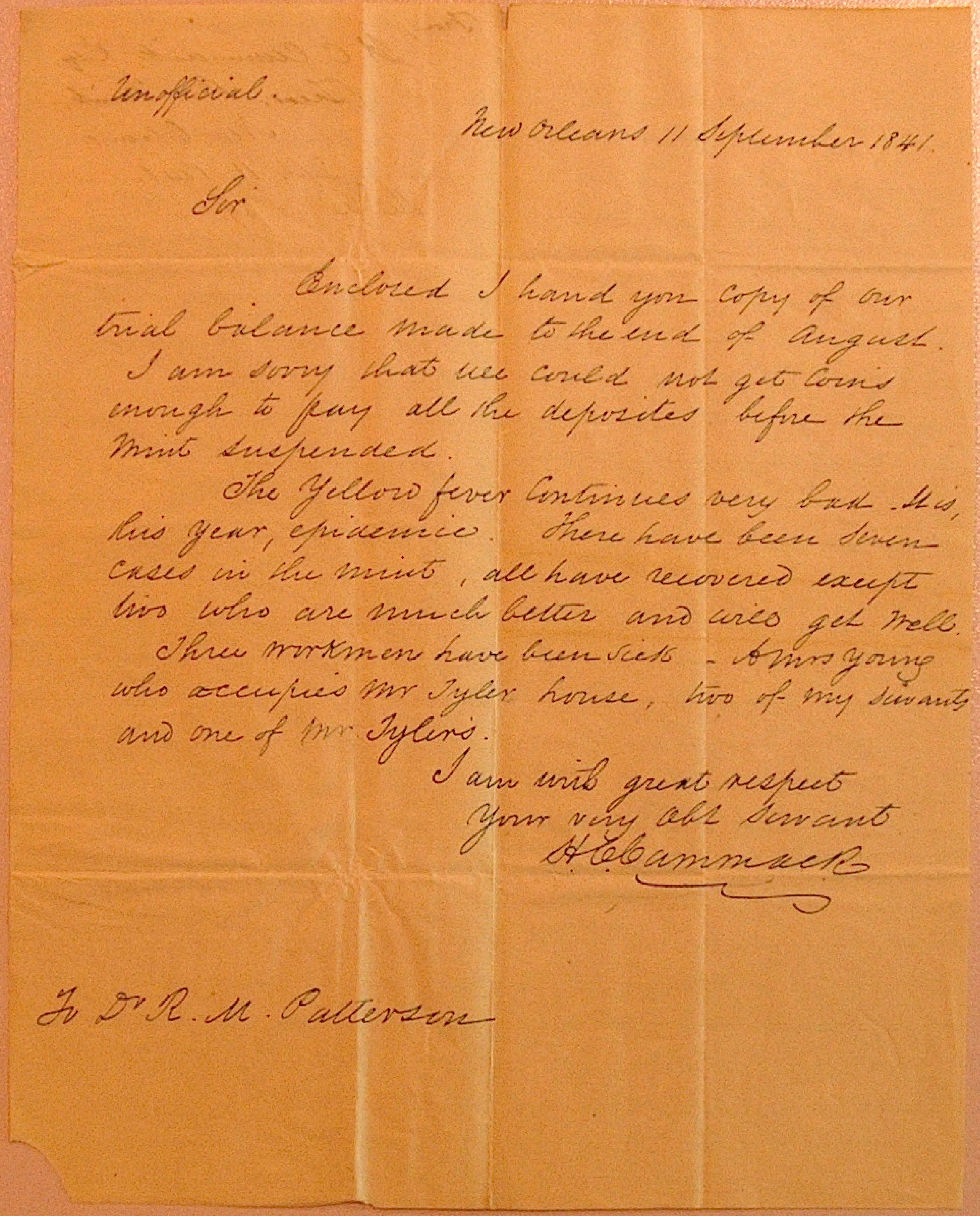
I enclose the Statement of our operations in November which was handed to me yesterday by the Treasurer.

Dr. Riddell desires that his account be settled at the close of the year. I have acceded to this request as the additional delay will be but short. A settlement, at that period, will also be more thorough and complete, as it will embrace all his operations since the resumption. I have left it to him to decide which of the two courses laid down in your letter of the 16th ult. he will adopt. I think that, after all his sweeps will be sent to N. York.

We have recd a box containing 2 pr. of dime and 1 pair of ½ dime dies.

Respy
Y. obed. Servant
J M Kennedy

R. M. Patterson Esqre
Director of the Mint
of the U. S.
Phila



Unofficial.

New Orleans 11 September 1841.

Sir

Enclosed I hand you Copy of our trial balance made to the end of August. I am sorry that we could not get Coins enough to pay all the deposites before the Mint suspended.

The Yellow fever Continues very bad. It is, this Year, epidemic. There have been Seven cases in the mint, all have recovered except two who are much better and will get well. Three workmen have been sick - A Mrs Young who occupies Mr Tyler house, two of my servants and one of Mr Tylers.

I am with great respect
Your very obt Servant
H. C. Cammack

To Dr R. M. Patterson

Dr. Branch Mint of the United States, New Orleans Cr.

1841				Dollars,	cts
August	31	To	Coiner his account of Gold, for 55.911 oz. Standard Gold, to be accounted for by him	1095	82
"	"	"	Coiner his account of Silver, for 4228.39 oz. Standard Silver, to be accounted for by him	4920	27
"	"	"	Melter & Refiner his account of Gold, for 299.911 oz. Standard Gold, to be accounted for by him	5579	73
"	"	"	Melter & Refiner his account of Silver, for 12.918.88 oz. Standard Silver, to be accounted for by him	15.031	92
"	"	"	Gold Coinage, for balance of this account	3.299	33
"	"	"	Silver Coinage, for do " " do	1.081	17
"	"	"	Edmd. Forstall, late Treasurer of the Br. mint, for balance of this account	2.342	16
				33.350	40

1841				Dollars,	cts
August	31	By	United States Deposite account, for balance of this account	23.238	10
"	"	"	Union Bank of Louisiana, for 2 Silver deposites due them	9.261	96
"	"	"	R. H. Bowen, for 1 Silver deposite due him	147	97
"	"	"	Bartlett & Adams, " 1 do do " "	99	80
"	"	"	B. Hollner, " 1 do do " "	200	47
"	"	"	Profit & Loss, for balance of this account	402	09
"	"	"	Silver Bullion purchased for Coinage, for fractions not counted		01
				33.350	40

Branch Mint of the United States, New Orleans
Treasurer's Office, August 31st. 1841.
H. C. Cammack
Treasurer

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Sept. 7. 1841

Enclosed you have our Statement for the month of August.

Our suspension for the purpose of rebuilding the flues of the Melting Department commenced on the 17th ult. Judging by the progress which has so far been made in the work, I am in hopes that we will be ready to resume operations on, or about, the 1st of October -

Respectfully
Y. obed. Servt.
J M Kennedy
Supt.

R. M. Patterson Esq.
Director of the Mint of
the U. S.
Philada.

Statement of the Deposites and Coinage, at the Branch Mint at New Orleans, in the month of August 1841.

Deposites

Kind of Deposits	Gross Weight after melting		Standard Weight		Value before deductions		Value after deductions		Total Value before deductions	
	Ounces,	dec	Ounces,	dec	Dolls,	cts	Dolls,	cts	Dollars,	cts
Gold:										
No deposites of Gold receive this month										
Silver:										
Foreign Coins,	280	05	272	89	317	54	317	54		
									317	54
Total deposites									317	54

Coinage

Denomination	Number of pieces	Value		Total Value	
		Dollars,	cts	Dollars,	cts
Gold:					
Quarter Eagles,	7380	18.450	00		
Half Eagles,	50	250	00		
				18.700	00
Silver:					
Quarter Dollars,	120,000	30.000	00		
Half Dollars,	2000	1.000	00		
				31.000	00
Total Coinage				49.700	00

Branch Mint of the United States, New Orleans.
Treasurer's Office, August 31st 1841.
H. Cammack
Treasurer.

Mint U. S.
Aug. 28/41.

Sir,

Your letter of the 14th, post-marked 17th inst., has come into my hands just as I ~~was~~ am on the point, for the first time for three years, of indulging myself with an absence from the Mint of of four or five days.

I am sorry to find that you ~~report~~ announce so large an amount of poor sweeps, ~~as~~ since the cost of transportation and the refiner's charge will, I fear, greatly reduce the net proceeds. I shall be glad, however, to be put in possession of it at as early a day as possible.

I think you are right in keeping back the thin stuff which runs off with the water. An assay of a portion of it will, however, best determine this point.

Dr. McClintock sold his broken iron pots to Mr. Greffulhe at $7 per barrel. If he will give you that price for them, you will do well to send them to him direct to New York.

Our Melter & Refiner is engaged in a course of experiments on toughening & refining by nitre, which are not yet brought to a conclusion, but which are made for the purpose of determining the question of its eligibility. A trial made some time ago seemed favorable to this process, but circumstances have since led us to doubt the accuracy of that trial. When we obtain the results of which we are at present in search, they shall be communicated to you.

The question as to Mr. Maxwell's sweep I must hold suspended, and also your request that I should "prescribe definitely all the rules and formalities proper to be observed in melting deposits." On my return, I will again write to you.

R. M. P.

To/
Dr. J. L. Riddell.
Melt & Ref.
New Orleans Mint.

Branch Mint New Orleans Aug. 20. 1841

Dr. R. M. Patterson, Director

Sir

In justice to our Superintendent I should perhaps have apprised you in my letter of the 16th inst., that the original of your letter of 21st July relating to sweeps, was handed to me for perusal on Saturday the 7th inst.

Mr. Kennedy also requests me to state to you the reason why I was directed by him to melt the stock of fine silver into ingots. This order was given me some time subsequent to the order for the withdrawal of our bullion fund by government; for the laudable purpose as I understood it of enabling us to pay off the deposits made for coinage, and at the same time meet the said government draft. At the time neither Mr. Kennedy nor myself anticipated the raising of standard by nitre, but presumed on the receipt of test bottoms from Mexico, the supply of which proved wholly inadequate. Our test furnace is useless from too small a flue.

Your Obt Servt

J. L. Riddell

Branch Mint New Orleans
August 14. 1841

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director

Sir

At the request of Mr. Kennedy I address you in regard to our sweep. A copy of your letter of July 21st relative thereto was handed to me this day. We have not yet suspended the melting of ingots, so that I have not yet had leisure to give the requisite attention to sweeps. I have no definite idea of its amount or richness; yet I have reason to believe there will twice as much as you would expect, because the rickety imperfect condition of our flues has caused probably double the consumption of charcoal, for the same amount of melting, as in your mint. Hence double the amount of ashes. At the end of a week or so, I shall probably devote my whole attention to washing, drying, weighing, barrelling, assaying, and registering the sweep until the task is completed.

The way I have the thing arranged the very lightest of the sweep runs with the water into a large reservoir where it subsides, as an impalpably fine schlich or mud. I do not believe this contains $8. per hundred pounds. If so, I suppose it would be better to let it remain and leave it out of the account, rather than to put the mint to expense upon it for nothing. Let me assure you that I appreciate the kind offer of your agency in the matter. Our plan is to ship it to your mint when prepared; to effect which purpose I have intended diligently to avail myself of the suspension.

I have made several trials of a new plan for extracting the precious metals from sweep or ore, without recourse to quicksilver, water or smelting. The results so far have been entirely satisfactory. I believe the plan is original. When I shall have completed a few more experiments chalked out, I will at once communicate the whole to you. Cost of apparatus $200 nearly, — materials very trifling — labor far less than by amalgamation. I cannot suppose that it will cost even here $3. per 100 lbs to work the sweep on this plan.

In the month of April 1841. $356 26/100. was debited to me, on account of 3000 lbs of sweep, 7 thousandths fine in silver — left by Mr. Maxwell the late Melter & Refiner. To this charge I assented at the time, supposing that the expense of smelting was to be borne by the mint. The smelting of the same by Messrs Greenfield & Longman will cost 30×8 = $240. which in view of present instructions I shall ask you to recommend to be carried to my credit.

Mr. Greenfield wishes me to send him our iron pots, on which and in which there is some silver. How can such a transaction be adjusted?

Four months since Mr. Kennedy gave me orders to cast my stock of fine silver into ingots, since which time I have had to raise Mexican dollars and other bullion to standard by refining with nitre. On this plan I have since refined and cast inclusive of clippings near 200.000 ounces of ingots. I have strong misgivings that it is a very wasteful operation. But I had no alternative. What is your experience in the matter?

I have repeatedly suggested to our superintendent that as our mint does rest in warm weather, the last of summer, or first of autumn would be far the most convenient time for the habitual settlement of my annual account; as there would previously be leisure for getting up the grains and assaying the sweep. I hope you will authorize him to make the change.

I will thank you to prescribe definitely all the rules and formalities proper to be observed in melting deposits, especially as regards the stirring. Our defective flues have often disenabled me from properly mixing the metal.

Respectfully
Your Obt Servant
J. L. Riddell
Melter & Refiner

in good order and well-conditioned, by Joseph M. Kennedy Esq on board the good Ship called the Louisville whereof Hunt is Master for this present voyage, and now lying in the port of **New Orleans**, and bound for New York

To say,

Sold by James Beattie, 27 Camp-st.

I. B. Tyler
1 c
care
Robt M. Patterson
Directr U. S. Mint
Phila

Six Boxes

Being marked and numbered as in the margin, and are to be delivered in the like good order and well-conditioned, at the aforesaid Port of New York (the dangers of the seas only excepted) unto E. K. Collins & Co or to their Assigns, he or they paying Freight for the said boxes

Fifteen cents per foot

with 5% primage and average accustomed.

In witness whereof, the Master or Purser of the said vessel hath affirmed to 4 Bills of Lading, all of this tenor and date; one of which bills being accomplished, the others to stand void.

Dated at **New Orleans,** Sixth August 1841

Contents unknown Jn M Hunt

U. S. Branch Mint
N. Orleans, August 6. 1841

Sir,

I rec.d yesterday from our Treasurer the Statement of our operations for July, which I now enclose –

Your letter of the 21st ult.o has been duly rec.d I will see that, as soon as practicable, Dr. Riddell's account be rendered up to the time of the Suspension, and finally disposed of.

Very respectfully
y. obd.t Serv.t
J. M. Kennedy
Supt.

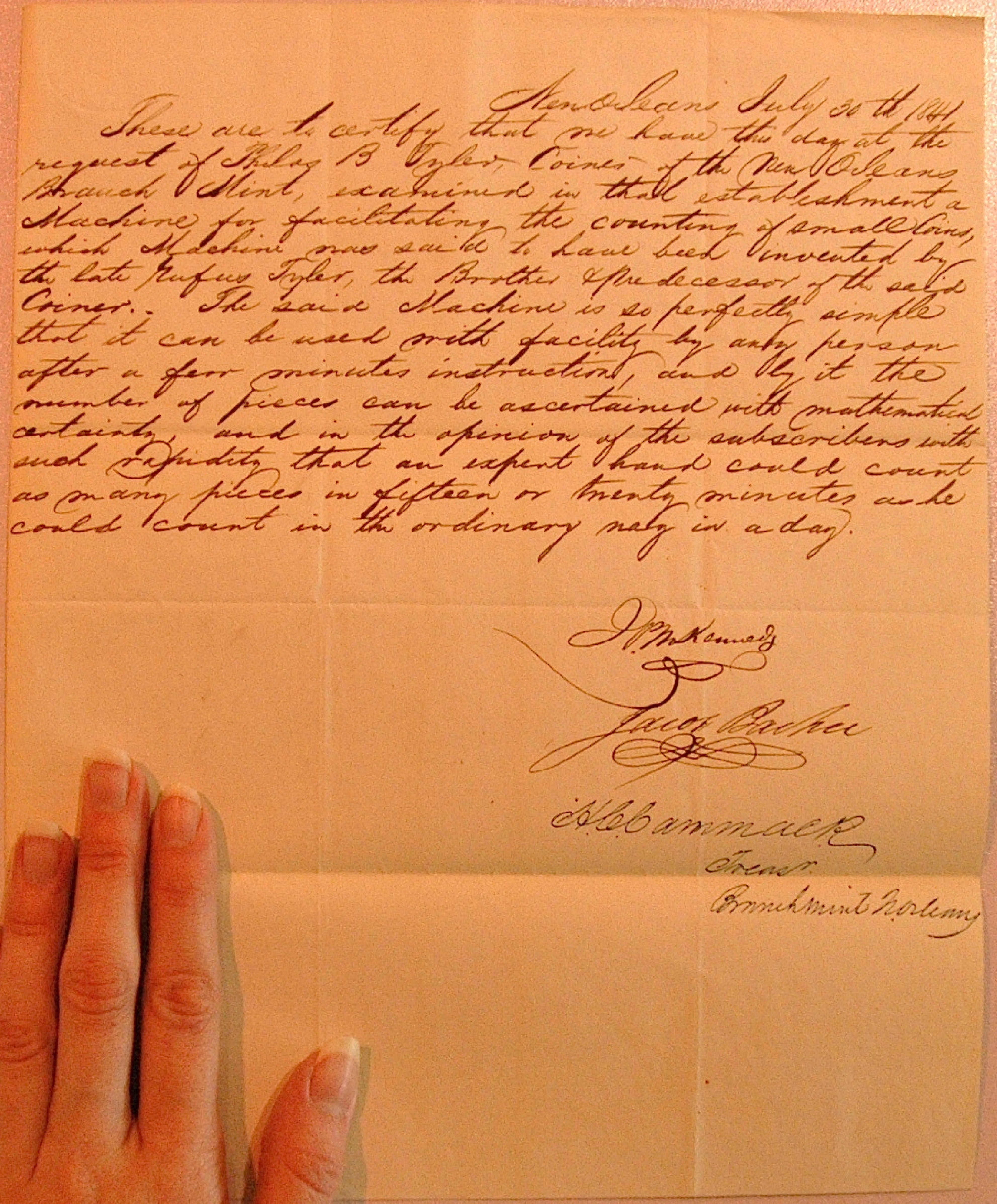
R. M. Patterson Esq
Director of the Mint
of the U. S.
Phil.a

Statement of the Deposites and Coinage, at the Branch Mint at New Orleans, in the month of July 1841.

Deposites											
Kind of Deposits	Gross Weight after Melting		Standard Weight		Value before deductions		Value after deductions		Total Value before deductions	
	Ounces,	dec	Ounces,	dec	Dollars,	cts	Dollars,	cts	Dollars,	cts
Silver.										
Foreign bullion	979	40	1068	63	1243	49	1240	29		
Foreign Coins	358	60	351	42	408	92	407	73		
									1652	41
Total deposites									1652	41

Coinage					
Denomination	Number of pieces	Value		Total Value	
		Dollars,	cts	Dollars,	cts
Silver:					
Half Dimes,	245.000	12.250	00		
Dimes,	167.500	16.750	00		
Quarter Dollars,	156.000	39.000	00		
				68.000	00
Total Coinage				68.000	00

Branch Mint of the United States, New Orleans
Treasurer's Office, July 31 st. 1841.
H. C. Cammack
Treasurer



New Orleans July 30th 1841

These are to certify that we have this day at the request of Philos B Tyler, Coiner of the New Orleans Branch Mint, examined in that establishment a Machine for facilitating the counting of small Coins, which Machine was said to have been invented by the late Rufus Tyler, the Brother & predecessor of the said Coiner. The said Machine is so perfectly simple that it can be used with facility by any person after a few minutes instruction, and by it the number of pieces can be ascertained with mathematical certainty, and in the opinion of the subscribers with such rapidity that an expert hand could count as many pieces in fifteen or twenty minutes as he could count in the ordinary way in a day.

J P McKennedy

Jacob Barker

H. C. Cammack
Treasr
Branch Mint N. Orleans

Mint U.S. — July 21 /41.

Sir,

I hasten to reply to your letter of the 9th inst., presenting Dr. Riddell's views with regard to his sweep. ~~the~~

I consider Dr. Riddell's claims in this business to be right except as to one point, namely that the expense of smelting should be borne out of the contingent fund. The cost of casks, portage, and freight may properly be ~~c~~ borne by the ~~contingent fund of the~~ Mint, but not the deduction made by the Smelter. This ~~has~~ is never done at ~~th~~ our institution. All that is not returned by the Melter to the Mint in bullion is waste. ~~—~~ It is his duty to see that this be kept within the ~~liberal~~ limits set by the law, and our experience shows that, with proper care, this can be done ~~very~~ readily. For this purpose no measure is more important than a frequent ~~settling~~ settlement of the account, and a *complete* settlement. As yet none such has been made with Dr. Riddell, for the market value of his sweep has not to this day been ascertained, and the bullion which can be actually procured for it has not been transferred to the Treasurer. I hope you will see that the settlement of so important an account be not delayed any longer.

I have no other anxiety to have the sweep sent here than that which arises from my desire that a full and just value be procured for it. If Mess. Greenfield & Longman will take it at your assay and weight, and pay you for it in advance, it will be very unnecessary to send it here, and ~~would~~ subject us to a labor which you cannot suppose that we willingly invite. But ~~I~~ it is wiser for you to learn by our experience than ~~by~~ your own, and we have found that it is not safe to trust this kind of business to the mere good faith of the smelters. While we did so, ~~we~~ our returns were far short of what we were obtaining, and on one occasion we had to bring suit before we could get any thing.

You say ~~by~~ that ~~Mr~~ Riddell has mixed up the sweep of the present year with the last. This difficulty is readily obviated by the ~~desirable~~ course of settling up his account to the time of your summer ~~close~~ suspension of operations. If the sweep is sent to us immediately, the exact returns from them can be ascertained before you resume your work, and you will have the satisfaction, ~~&~~ at last, of having this account ~~settled~~ closed. As to Mr. Maxwell's sweep, since Mr. Riddell was debited with its estimated value, and since it was not kept distinct, he must remain debited to this amount, and ~~his~~ ~~counter~~ the returns from the assayer must cover this as well as the other charges against him, ~~and~~ within the ~~legal~~ limit of allowance prescribed by law.

R. M. P.
D.

To/
Jos. M. Kennedy, Esq.
Sup. Br. Mint,
~~Ch~~ New Orleans.

P.S. I had a correspondence with Mr. Cammack in the end of last month, on the subject of ~~the~~ differences in the assays, made at your Mint, from the bottom and top of the same bars. — Mr. Eckfeldt, who has just called in at my office, informs me that the melts of mixed coins were made this morning in different pots and by different men; that each melt was cast into two bars; and that he took assay-pieces from the bottom of the first and the top of the second of each pair of bars, — these corresponding with the top and bottom ~~of the~~ respectively of each pot. The result of the assay was as follows:

First pair.— Bottom of 1st bar 881.0 ths; top of 2d bar 881.0.

Second pair.— Bottom of 1st bar 881.0; top of 2d bar 880.5.

No particular care was taken in the melting, as the men did not know that any trial of the uniformity of the melts was to be made.

To/
Jos. M. Kennedy, Esq.r
Supt. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

July 21, 1841.

Silver deposits unpaid July 18th 1841.

		Names of depositors	Half dollars		dimes		½ dimes	
No	576	Citizens' Bank	17.041	58				
	581	do	16.087	98				
	582	do	16.057	12				
	585	Merchants Bank	10.059	20				
	586	do	15.091	04				
	587	do	15.076	95				
	594	do (Balance)			800	00	1000	00
	662	Exchange Bank			1904	06		
	664	do			2026	95		
	665	do			1154	01		
	676	R.H. Bowen			100	00	47	97
	686	City Bank					995	31
	687	Union Bank	4.629	85				
	688	do	4.632	11				
	689	do	9.262	96				
	690	do	11.585	57				
	693	Bartlett Adams					100	08
	723	D. F. Gueux					131	37
	727	F. M. Young			1.501	90		
		Carried over	119.524	36	7.486	92	2.274	73

		Names of depositors	Halfdlls.		dimes		1/2 dimes	
		amt brt over	119.524	36	7.486	92	2274	73
No.	746	B. Nollner					200	47
	756	John Fredrick					99	92
	757	Gustav Leroy					100	15
	758	N.O. Exchange & Banking Co	10.044	52				
	760	Ed. Morrison					99	01
	762	Raphael Lamarfa			3.004	21		
	765	Jean Lorenzo					99	57
	772	Miguel Gabriel					99	97
	774	J. Vincent					100	37
	776	A. Ribet					99	92
			129.568	88	10.491	13	3.174	11

Mint U.S.

July 30/41.

Sir,

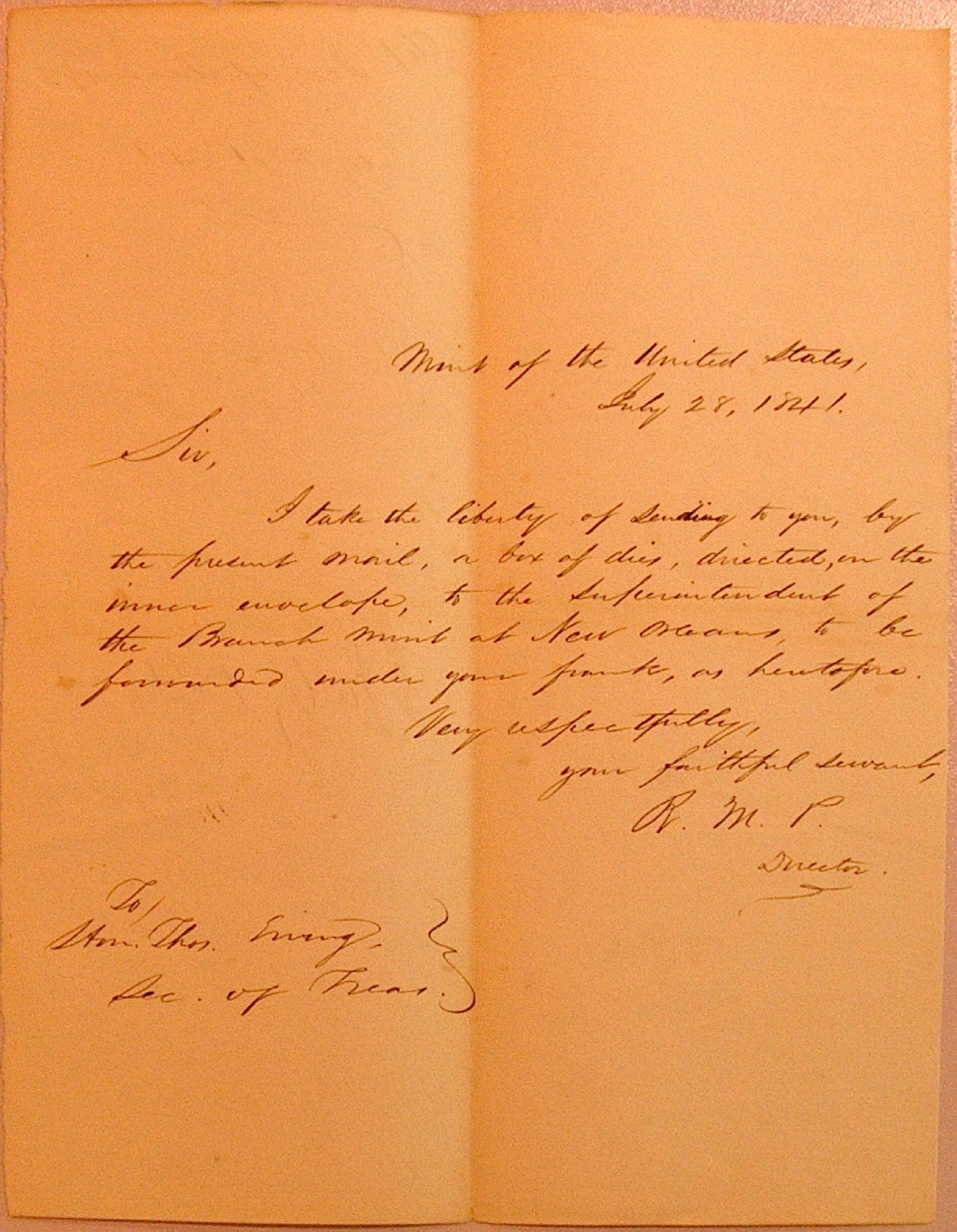
I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th inst., with the accompanying ~~documents~~ statements which are of much interest.

The case which you present to my consideration, of the excess of gold and deficit of silver, is embarrassing. The error formerly committed of paying gold deposits in silver could hardly fail to give rise to this evil in the end. It is clear, however, that it must now be corrected, and I think it may be lawfully done, by considering the ~~gold in excess as~~ government deposite as comprised in your excess of gold, ~~which exceeds it by $7,585.31~~. With this ~~th~~ public fund you have made purchases of bullion for coinage; and there is nothing in the proviso in Sect. 12, of the deposite act of July 1836, which would be contravened by your purchasing gold with silver, or the reverse. If, then, your depositors will consent to receive their payment in gold coins, (which all depositors would prefer,) I think that, with the approbation of the Superintendent, ~~the~~ payments may be thus made, to the amount of the deficit of silver, viz, $9,529.77.

R. M. P.

To/
H. C. Cammack, Esq.,
Treasurer of Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

P.S.— Please mention to the Supt. that we sent to him, on the 28th, through the Sec. of Treas., 1 tail ½ dollar die & 2 prs. dime dies.



Mint of the United States,
July 28, 1841.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending to you, by the present mail, a box of dies, directed, on the inner envelope, to the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, to be forwarded under your frank, as heretofore.

Very respectfully,
your faithful servant,
R. M. P.
Director.

To/
Hon. Thos. Ewing,
Sec. of Treas.

Branch Mint, New Orleans.
Treasurer's Office, July 17. 1841.

Sir,

I enclose copy of the Balance Sheet of the Bullion Account of this Branch Mint, at the close of the second quarter of the present year, and a memorandum of the deposites remaining unpaid up to this date.–

You will observe that the amount of Gold in the Mint, is upwards of $31.000.– while no Gold deposite remains unpaid.– As the Government deposite is leſs than that sum, there is an insufficiency of Silver in the mint, to reimburse the Depositors of Silver bullion.– The law requires payments to be made in Coins of the same metal that the deposite is made; I am therefore, at a loſs to know how to make payment, when the bullion in the Mint has been coined.– The Gold bullion of the Mint, was increased during the beginning of 1839. when, I understand, Gold deposites were paid in Silver Coins.– Please to give me your advice on this Subject, & believe me

Yours very faithfully

H. C. Cammack

T.

To/
Dr. R. M. Patterson,
Director U. S. Mint

New Orleans Br. Mint, June 30, 1841.

$ 31,282.31	Gold in the Mint.
458.90	" deposits unpaid.
$ 30,823.41	" Surplus.

$ 179,371.26	Silver deposites unpaid.
169,841.49	" in the Mint
$ 9,529.77	" deficit.

$ 30,823.41	Gold surplus.
9,529.77	Silver deficit.
$ 21,293.64	Net surplus on hand.

$ 23,238.10	Govt. deposite.
397.70	Profit & Loss (Gain)
$ 23,635.80	Surplus called for.
21,293.64	do. on hand, as above.
$ 2,342.16	E. Forstall's deficit.

30,823.41	Gold surplus
23,238.10	Govt. deposite
7,585.31	Excess of gold, supposing all the Govt. depts. paid in gold
9,529.77	
1,944.46	
397.70	Profit
2,342.16	Mr. Forstall's deficit.

1841	By Amount brought forward							194,602	23
	" Anthony Salmon	For	1	Silver	deposite	due him		113	56
	" Robert C. Webb	"	1	do	do	do		99	92
	" Ellis & Lyde	"	1	do	do	do		150	51
	" Gustave Leroy	"	1	do	do	do		100	15
	" E. Morriſon	"	1	do	do	do		99	01
	" R. Lamarſa	"	1	do	do	do		3,004	21
	" Sylvester Huestis	"	1	do	do	do		433	08
	" Juan Lorenzo	"	1	do	do	do		99	57
	" John Dennie	"	2	do	do	do		1,001	68
	" E. Maitre	"	1	do	do	do		100	26
	" Miguel Gabriel	"	1	do	do	do		99	97
	" S. Vincent	"	1	do	do	do		100	37
	" L. Convertier	"	1	do	do	do		114	77
	" A. Ribet	"	1	do	do	do		99	92
	" John Petit	"	1	do	do	do		100	03
	" G. R. Stringer	"	1	do	do	do		2,996	79
	" Joseph Genois	"	1	do	do	do		149	93
								$203,465	96

Branch Mint of the United States, New Orleans.
Treasurer's Office June 30th 1841.
H. C. Cammack
Tr

Dr. Branch Mint of the United States, at New Orleans. Cr.

			Dollars	Cts
1841 June	30	To the Coiner, his account of Gold, for 150.$\frac{251}{1000}$ Oz. Standard Gold, to be accounted for by him. (Abstract No. 1)	2,808	85
		" the Coiner, his account of Silver, for 18,799.44 Oz. Standard Silver, to be accounted for by him. (Abstract No. 2)	21,875	70
		" the Melter & Refiner, his account of Gold, for 1,212.$\frac{951}{1000}$ Oz. Standard Gold, to be accounted for by him. (Abstract No. 3)	22,566	70
		" the Melter & Refiner, his account of Silver, for 81,732.19 Oz. Standard Silver, to be accounted for by him. (Abstract No. 4)	95,106	53
		" Gold Coinage, for balance of this account. (Abstract No. 7)	5,906	76
		" Silver Coinage, for balance of this account. (Abstract No. 8)	52,859	26
		" Edmund Forstall, late Treasurer of the Branch Mint, for balance of this account. (Abstract No. 11)	2,342	16
		Carried Forward	203,465	96

							Dollars	Cts
1841 June	30	By United States Deposite account, For balance of this account (Ab. No. 9)					23,238	10
		" Profit & Loss, for balance of this account (Ab. No. 10)					397	70
		" The Louisiana State Bank for	1	Silver	deposite	due them	999	39
		" " Union Bank of Louisiana	4	do	do	do	30,110	49
		" " Exchange & Bkg. Company	5	do	do	do	17,032	50
		" " Consolidated Bank	1	do	do	do	724	25
		" Lewis S. Willis	1	Gold	do	do	458	90
		" The Citizens' Bank of Loua.	3	Silver	do	do	49,186	68
		" " City Bank of New Orleans	5	do	do	do	4,984	52
		" " Merchants' Bank of N.O.	4	do	do	do	50,289	18
		" Benoist, Hackney & Co.	2	do	do	do	1,509	11
		" R. H. Bowen	1	do	do	do	147	97
		" John Rollins	1	do	do	do	199	78
		" Bartlett & Adams	1	do	do	do	99	80
		" John Frederick	2	do	do	do	199	94
		" C. A. Regnier	1	do	do	do	602	67
		" Thomas Powell	2	do	do	do	425	67
		" John C. Norcross	1	do	do	do	99	80
		" W. H. Fisk	1	do	do	do	1,001	57
		" D. F. Gues	1	do	do	do	131	37
		" J. F. Laville	1	do	do	do	200	80
		" Louis Moret	1	do	do	do	300	27
		" Francoise Bachelier	1	do	do	do	200	34
		" F. M. Young	1	do	do	do	1,501	90
		" Office Citizens' Bank	1	do	do	do	199	55
		" J. F. Barthelemy	1	do	do	do	105	56
		" Jane Da Costa	1	do	do	do	199	66
		" Horace Bean & Co.	5	do	do	do	2,500	82
		" John L. Terry	1	do	do	do	998	15
		" B. Ougatte	2	do	do	do	199	35
		" Pickles & Co.	1	do	do	do	200	13
		" J. Rebola	1	do	do	do	199	44
		" Walter Field	1	do	do	do	1,003	36
		" Chas. C. Lyon	1	do	do	do	100	09
		" Joseph Lobrano	1	do	do	do	199	84
		" P. Wollner	1	do	do	do	200	47
		" C. Kingsbury	1	do	do	do	545	41
		" A. Rignes	1	do	do	do	99	09
		" Philos B. Tyler	1	do	do	do	398	90
		" J. L. Riddell	1	do	do	do	100	55
		Carried Forward					194,682	33

1841	To Amount brought forward	203,465	96
		$203,465	96

Mint U. S.
July 16 / 41.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 5 inst., with the report of the operations at your Mint for June.

Your representations with regard to the flues of the Melting department seem to be conclusive as to the necessity of having them rebuilt; ~~but I am not sure that a defect in size has been [illegible]~~ To guide you in this work it may be well for me to state that the flues of our melting room chimnies are about 10 inches by 14 ~~inches square~~ in the opening. ~~Some, indeed, are not square, but this is still about the area of the section~~. For a part of the distance above the fire, say ten feet, they are lined with fire brick to the thickness of the breadth of a brick. The sides of the chimnies are 9 inches thick.

So far as this repair will interrupt the operations at your Mint, a suspension must necessarily ~~be~~ occur; but you will see the importance of limiting this suspension to the shortest practicable time.

I have had communications from the Treasurer and the Coiner of your Mint, asking that, with your consent, leave of absence should be granted to them during the suspension of ~~the operations~~ business. I ~~have~~ deemed it necessary and proper that this ~~Dep~~ application should be referred to the Department at Washington, and I have just received a letter on the subject from the Secretary of the Treasury, in which he says:

"If no inconvenience or delay in the operations of that Branch will be caused by the absence of those officers, it would seem to be but reasonable that their requests should be complied with. Of that, however, you must be the judge. But the absence of Mr. Kennedy [Mr. Cammack] as Receiver General cannot be authorized by the Department. If he thinks proper to absent himself and leave a deputy to perform his duties, he must do so at his own risk and on his own responsibility."

I beg you to communicate this answer to Mr. Cammack and Mr. Tyler. As to the latter officer, I presume there can be no difficulty in acceding to his ~~wish application~~ desire. It must be distinctly understood, however, that there must be no after-application, as in the case of Dr. Riddell, for the expenses of his journey.

R. M. P.
D

To/ Wm. M. Kennedy Esqr.
Supt. Br. Mint,
New Orleans

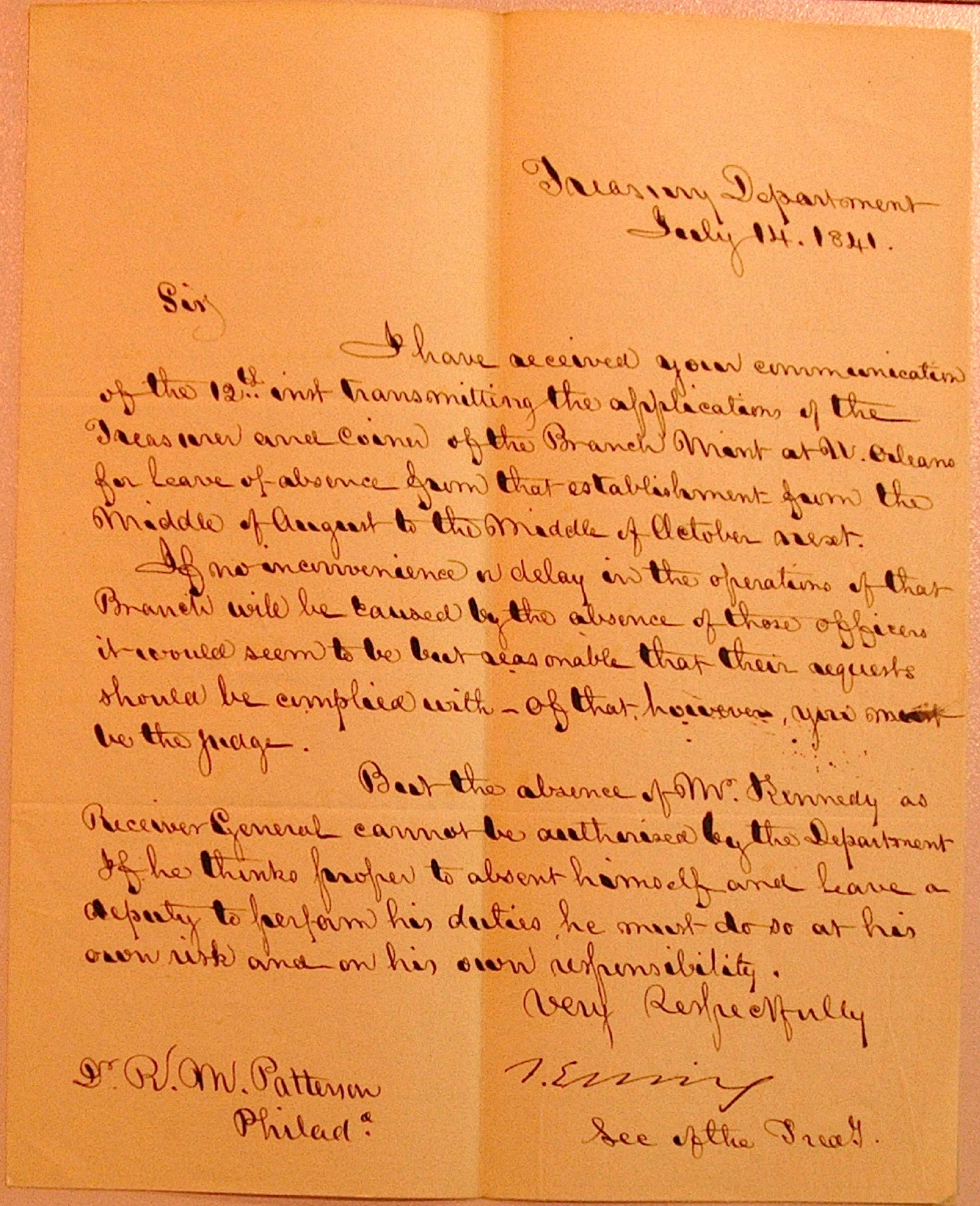
Mint U.S.
July 15/41.

Sir,

On the 12th inst. I wrote to consult you as ~~applied for your appro-~~ to an application ~~for~~ ~~bation~~ for leave of absence, from the New Orleans Mint, made by ~~in behalf of~~ the Coiner and the Treasurer, on the ground that necessary repairs in the floor of the Melting-room would require ~~[illegible]~~ ~~render~~ a suspension of the operations of that establishment, for some weeks. I have received, this morning, a letter from the Superintendent, Mr. Kennedy, in which he gives the written opinions of the Assayer, Dr. Hort, and of an architect, Mr. Gallier, to show that the proposed repairs are essential ~~necessary~~, and asks my sanction to the suspension which will be required if they be executed. He at the same time applies for leave of absence for the Coiner Mr. Tyler. The whole question is thus presented in regular form.

R. M. P.
D

C/
Hon. Thomas Ewing,
Sec. of Treasury.



Treasury Department
July 14. 1841.

Sir

I have received your communication of the 12th inst transmitting the applications of the Treasurer and Coiner of the Branch Mint at N. Orleans for leave of absence from that establishment from the Middle of August to the Middle of October next.

If no inconvenience or delay in the operations of that Branch will be caused by the absence of those officers it would seem to be but reasonable that their requests should be complied with - Of that, however, you must be the judge.

But the absence of Mr. Kennedy as Receiver General cannot be authorised by the Department If he thinks proper to absent himself and leave a deputy to perform his duties, he must do so at his own risk and on his own responsibility.

Very Respectfully

T. Ewing
Sec of the Treasy.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Philada.

July 14. 1841

dear Sir

I have today drawn on you favr Dr W. P. Hort, assayer, at sight for Two Hundred dollars against the funds of this Br Mint in your hands which please to honor.

Dr Hort has given me the amount of this draft in Gold Coins, and he will be obliged if you can pay it in the same coins as it is a remittance for his ~~daughters~~. Children.

I am
very respectfully
Your obt Servant
HCammack
Trs.

To Dr R. M. Patterson

Mint of the United States.
July 12th, 1841.

Sir,

I send, subjoined, applications from two of the Officers of the New Orleans Mint for leave of absence from that establishment, from the middle of August to the middle of October, during which time it appears that the operations of must be necessarily suspended, in consequence of repairs required in the Melter's department. You are aware that very little business of any kind is transacted at New Orleans during that period of the year; and, if the services of the officers are not required, I think the information which they, ~~might de~~ — particularly the Coiner, — might derive from a visit to Philadelphia, would be very useful to them. Of course the leave of absence will not be given without ~~a~~ the express desire of it ~~the written application from~~ the Superintendent, and of this I have no doubt; but in no event ~~but, even in that event~~ I would ~~not~~ feel authorised to act without your approbation, and I therefore write for the purpose of submitting the case to you. Under similar circumstances, leave of absence was granted, last Summer, ~~to~~ with the consent of the Department, to the Melter and the Coiner, but the latter was not able to avail himself of it.

Very respectfully
Your faithful Servant
R. M. T.

To
Hon. Thomas Ewing,
Sec. of Treasury.

Sir

I have received your Letter of the 29th ultimo, and note the contents particularly -

From your remark, that you are glad to see, that my personal attention has been directed, to the important point, which is the subject of your Letter, I fear you may be under the impreſsion, that I have heretofore neglected it - I beg to assure you, such has not been the case. I have constantly expreſsed my surprise, and dissatisfaction, at the low assays of Mexn dollars, and have stated to the Officers of the Mint, my opinion, that depositors did not in all cases, get the full value of their deposits - indeed, my course in this matter, I very much fear, has already incurred for me, some displeasure in this Establishment.

This, in part however, could not be well avoided, for every movement of mine in the busineſs, carries with it, a tacit avowal on my part, of a want of confidence in the correctness of the operations of the M&R. and acting alone, it has been to me, a most unpleasant, and unsatisfactory duty to perform - This explanation is made by me, only in justification of myself, in consequence of your remark, and of the delicacy of the position in which I am placed, by being made responsible, for the

correct

correct and faithful melting of deposits, and I will be obliged if you will consider it, in that light –

As we do not now receive deposits for Coinage, of course this subject will not again be brought before us for the present – I hope at the resumption of operations in the Autumn, the melting of deposits will be made, in a manner that will be more satisfactory

With Considerations of respect & esteem

I am, Your faithful Servant

H C Cammack

New Orleans
10 July 1841.

To Dr R. M. Patterson

U. S. Branch Mint
N. Orleans July 9th 1841

Sir,

That part of Dr. Riddell's letter referred to in my last to you which relates to his Sweeps, is in the following words:

" I have before me the letter from Dr.
" Patterson, in relation to my Sweeps dated June 18.
" Not many days since, I rec. a letter on the same
" subject from Messrs. Tranfield & Raymond, the
" Sweepsmelters mentioned by Dr. Patterson."

" To provide against Shipwreck and
" other contingencies it would be requisite to have
" the value of the Sweeps estimated before it
" goes out of this Mint, the correctness of weight
" recognized by the Treasurer, and the quality
" or richness determined by the Assayer. I should
" then wish that my account be credited by the
" Treasurer on your warrant for the amount, the whole
" contingent expenses of Casks or boxes, drayage,
" freight, and the expense of Smelting being
" borne by the contingent fund of the Mint in short
" that the Mint assume all risk and expense in
" the premises."

" Upon the receipt of your reply,
[illegible] I will take the [illegible]

"leisure to prepare it for shipment, in time to
"meet the views of Dr. Patterson."

I have said to the Melter & Refiner that according to our instructions, he is to be credited with the estimated value of his sweep "after deducting all charges." He informs me that in Philadelphia, the expense of smelting, is borne by the Mint. Be good enough to direct me upon that point.

Another difficulty presents itself in the fact of Doctor Riddell's having, since the close of the year, mixed up with the sweep which he had on hand at that period, as well, that which has accumulated since, as Mr. Maxwell's, with which he was debited at the time. Is he now to send on the whole, he to be credited (in his account for the present year) with the difference in value between the proceeds thereof and the amount to which he was entitled at the close of the last year according to Dr. Hart's certificate, or, is he to forward, as nearly as it can be arrived at, the quantity certified to therein.

I am Sir, very respectfully
Y. Obed. Servt.
J. M. Kennedy
Supt.

R. M. Patterson Esqr.
Director of the
Mint of the U. S.
Phila.

Statement of the Deposites and Coinage, at the Branch Mint at New Orleans, in the month of June 1841.

Deposites

Kind of Deposite	Gross Weight after melting		Standard Weight		Value before deduction		Value after deductions		Total Value before deductions	
	Ounces	dec	Ounces	dec	Dollars	cts	Dollars	cts	Dollars	cts
Gold										
No deposites of Gold received this month										
Silver:										
Foreign Coins,	98.126	75	97.643	45	113.621	05	113.478	72		
Foreign Bullion,	94	70	98	90	115	08	114	77		
									113.736	13
Total deposites									113.736	13

Coinage

Denomination	Number of pieces	Value		Total Value	
		Dollars	cts	Dollars	cts
Gold:					
Eagles,	800	8.000	00		
				8.000	00
Silver:					
Half Dimes,	160000	8000	00		
Dimes,	597.500	59.750	00		
Quarter Dollars,	7.000	1.750	00		
Half Dollars,	65.000	32.500	00		
				102.000	00
	830,300				
Total Coinage				110000	00

Branch Mint of the United States, New Orleans.
Treasurer's Office, June 30th 1841.
H. Cammack
Treasr.

U. S. Branch Mint N. Orleans
July 5. 1841.

Sir,

Enclosed you have our Statement for June.
I have laid your L of the 18th ult. before Dr. Riddell. It has drawn from him a letter to me relative to his sweep; I will communicate it to you in a day or two.
The flues of our Melting Department are greatly out of repair. They will require rebuilding altogether and this will of necessity lead to another suspension of operations for about six weeks. Mr. Gallier, who stands high, in our city, as an Architect, after having, at my request, made an examination of them reports as follows: "I am surprised, that „ flues of so small a size as these could be made „ to answer the purposes of melting so long as they „ have. The flues are not larger than those used „ in common dwelling house fire places, and „ have not more than four inches of brick-work „ round them, from both of which causes the chimneys „ are very much cracked and burnt out. I am „ therefore of opinion, that it is indispensable „ for the proper action of the furnaces that the „ present chimneys be taken down and new ones „ built from the bottom &c."

Dr. Hort [illegible] Department is [illegible]

in answer to a [illegible]: "I have only to repeat
" what I have often stated to you, that they (the flues)
" have been always defective. The former Melter and
" Refiner complained bitterly of them, and had determined
" before he died in 1839, to use the furnaces no more
" until the flues were pulled down and proper ones
" built. I have ~~and~~ satisfied that you have double, if
" not treble labour to perform in consequence of
" them, and that in certain states of the atmosphere
" you must fail completely." The flues of the furnaces
" are becoming more and more defective every day
" from the cracking of the walls of the flues and
" the loss of mortar which is burnt out, and so great
" is the heat produced in my assay department
" by these flues, when you are at work that I
" often feel very apprehensive of fire, to say
" nothing of the great inconvenience which I must
" necessarily suffer. I can no longer consider
" the rebuilding the flues in your Department
" as a matter of expediency. I am convinced
" that it has now become one of absolute necessity."

As the whole of this month will not more than suffice to work up the bullion we now have on hand, I have directed that the receiving of further deposits be discontinued until we can hear from you in relation to this suspension which I pray you to sanction, should you be of opinion that the state of those flues, as described by [illegible] [illegible] that they should be rebuilt. In that event Mr. Tyler is anxious to go to the Philadelphia Mint to obtain such information as the opportunity will allow. Will you be good enough to decide that matter at the same time.

Very respectfully
Y^r. ob^t. Serv^t.
J. M. Kennedy
Supt.

R. M. Patterson Esq
Director of the
Mint of the U. S.
Phil^a.

P.S. The Coiner desires you to send us two pair of dime dies.

Copy

Dr. The United States, for the incidental & contingent expenses & repairs of the Branch Mint at New Orleans as paid to the following persons from the 1st of April to the 30th of June 1841 inclusive, in pursuance of Warrants of the Superintendent, of the marginal dates & numbers Viz:

1841	Nos.			Dollars	Cts.
April 19	278	To Varnum Sheldon	for Lumber for Coining dept.	17	50
. 23	279	. John Craig	. Mason work in Melting dept.	57	75
May 1	280	. Holmes & Mills	. 272 Tons 12 Cwt. Coal	1.233	90
. .	281	. James P. Donegre	. 195 Casks Lehigh Coal	1.023	75
. .	282	. Frank Perret	. Cupels for Assaying dept.	335	52
. .	283	. I. T. Kaepke	. glazing windows in the Mint.	16	25
. 10	284	. Commrs. Wr. Water Works	. Supplying the Mint with water.	310	00
.	286	. Judah Parrott	. Charcoal for Melting dept.	90	00
.	287	. A. Roberts	. Blacksmith work in Coining dept.	16	25
.	288	. P. Martin	. Drugs &c. for melting dept.	75	97
. 11	289	. Jno. Johnson	. freight of goods from Philadelphia.	12	02
.	290	. W. Whitney & others.	. Watching the Mint in April	255	00
.	291	. W. Parks & W. S. Boyd	. Services as Porter & doorkeeper.	120	00
.	292	. Geo. Clamann	. Services as day Watch &c. in April	60.	00
. 12	294	. Thomas Carter	. Mason work for Coining dept.	38	12
. 13	295	. Thompson Phillips	. Carpenter work in melting dept.	135	00
. 17	296	. Layton & Co.	. Hardware furnished the Mint.	702	44
.	297	. John Hewlett	. Charcoal for Melting dept.	156	87
.	298	. F. H. Petitpain	. 54 Cords wood for Coining dept.	270	00
. 19	299	. E. Johns & Co.	. Stationary for Coiner's Office	25	50
.	300	. Chas. Guesnard	. Charcoal for melting dept.	10	00
. 26	301	. I. Pilland	. Tallow for Coining dept.	62	92
. 31	303	. W. Whitney & others.	. Watching the Mint in May	263	50
.	304	. W. Parks & W. S. Boyd	. Services as Porter & doorkeeper	124	00
.	305	. Geo. Clamann.	. Services as day watch & labourer in May	62	00
June 2	306	. Wm. P. Hort	. Sundry Articles for assay dept.	12	00
. 5	307	. A. C. Webb	. 50 Coin boxes for Coining dept.	50	00
			. Carried forward	$ 5.536	26

1841	Nos.					
			Brought forward		5.536	26
June 23	308	To A. Young.	for Carpenter work for assay dept.		20	25
. 28	309	. R. M. Patterson, Director,	for expenses incurred at Phila. for acct. of this Branch Mint, as per accompanying bills, Viz:			
		Pd. McAllister & Co.	per receipt No. 70.	$ 2.50		
		. A. W. Metcalf,	. . 71.	21.92		
		Curtis & Hand,	. . 73.	53.30	77	72
June 30	310	. W. Whitney & others	for watching the Mint in June		255	00
. .	311	. W. Parks & W. S. Boyd.	. Services as Porter & doorkeeper		120	00
. .	312	. Samuel Smith	. services rendered in June		52	00
. .	315	. James Allen	. Candles for Treasurer's Office		65	16
. .	316	. J. S. Wickes.	. expenses incurred a/c Mint.		149	02
. .	317	. Daniel Dana	. Blacksmith work for Coing dept.		115	75
					$ 6.391	16

Branch Mint, of the United States New Orleans.
Treasurer's Office June 30th 1841.

Copy.

Dr. The United States, in Account Current with Horace C. Cammack, Treasurer of the Branch Mint, New Orleans, his account of the ordinary receipts & expenditures, for the quarter ending the 30th of June 1841. Cr.

1841			Dollars	Cts
June	30	To amount paid from the 1st April to the 30. June, inclusive, for the incidental & contingent expenses & repairs of the Br. Mint as per statement & warrants marked. E 1	6.591	16
.	.	. Amount paid for wages of Laborers, employed in the Branch Mint, as per statement & warrants, marked. E 2	4.803	11
.	.	. Amount paid for the Salaries of the Officers & Clerks of the Branch Mint. for the quarter ending this day, as per statement & warrants marked, E 3	3.225	00
.	.	. this amount being loss on recoinage of Foreign Gold & Silver Coins, during the quarter ending this day as per statement & warrants marked. E 4	57	23
.	.	. Balance to new account.	594	92
			$ 15.071	42

1841			Dollars	Cts
March	31	By Balance remaining in the Treasurer's hands, as per account rendered to this date.	1.613	12
May	8	. Amount of Draft of the Treasurer of the United States. No. 5048. for the incidental & contingent expenses & repairs, of the Mint, wages of Laborers, and Salaries of the Officers & Clerks.	13.450	00
.	15	. this amount received from Layton & Co. being so much overcharged in their bill, paid second quarter of 1840. and deducted in my account, in adjustment by the Comptroller of the Treasury.	7	50
June	25	. this amount received from Zachariè Hillman & Co. being so much overcharged in bill paid to them on the 30th March 1841.		80
			$ 15.071	42

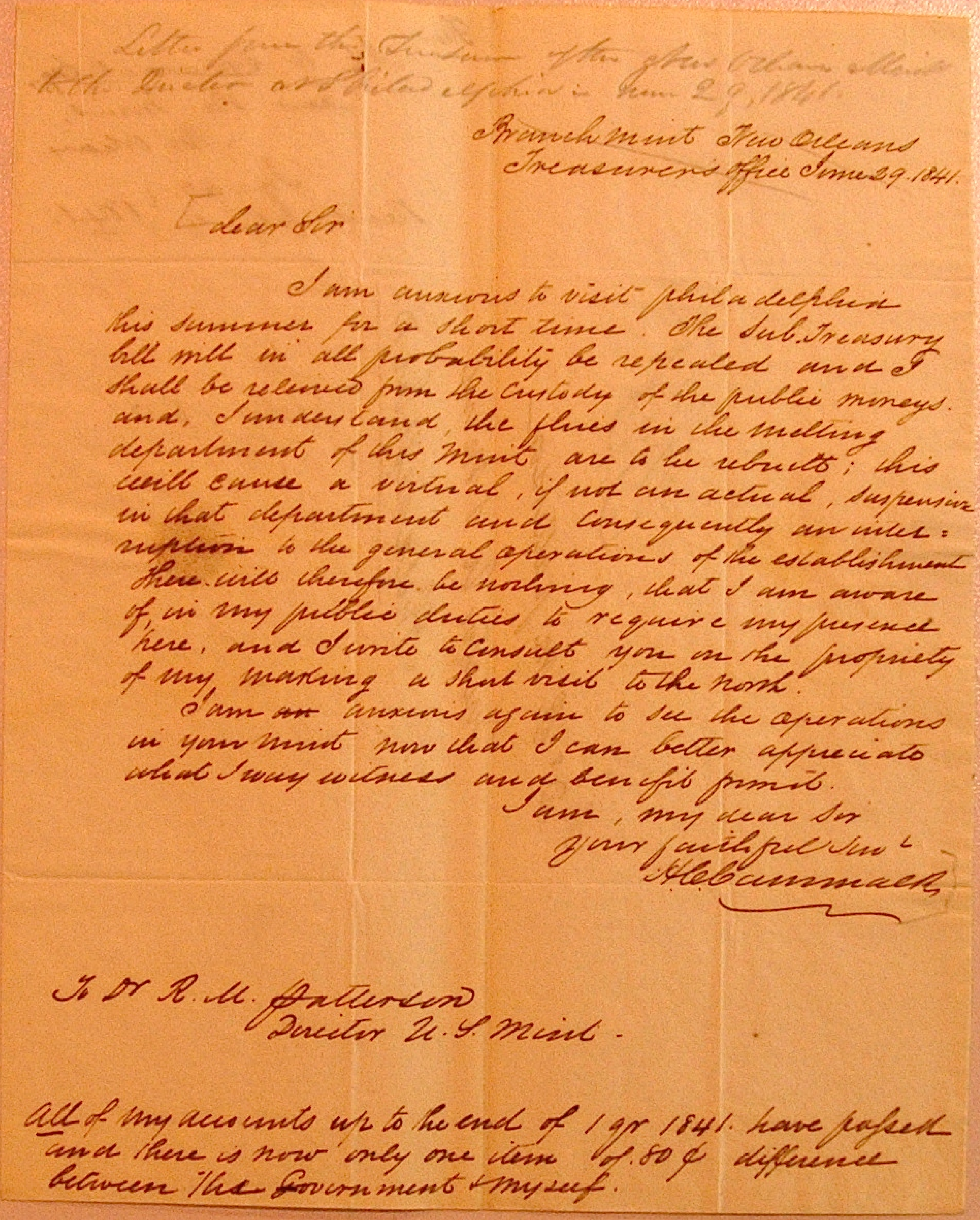
Dear Sir

As you have several times expressed gratification at receiving copies of our quarterly accounts. I send you copy of my disbursement account & acct current for ordinary expenses for quarter ending 30 Ultimo. The bills now outstanding unpaid amount to $1470.-

I am yours very truly
H C Cammack
4 July 1841.

To Dr Patterson.

Branch Mint of the United States, New Orleans
Treasurer's Office June 30th 1841



Letter from the Treasurer of the New Orleans Mint to the Director at Philadelphia June 29, 1841.

Branch Mint New Orleans
Treasurer's Office June 29. 1841.

dear Sir

I am anxious to visit Philadelphia this summer for a short time. The Sub. Treasury bill will in all probability be repealed and I shall be relieved from the Custody of the public moneys. and, I understand, the flues in the melting department of this Mint are to be rebuilt; this will cause a virtual, if not an actual, suspension in that department and consequently an interruption to the general operations of the establishment. There will therefore be nothing, that I am aware of, in my public duties to require my presence here, and I write to consult you on the propriety of my making a short visit to the north.

I am ~~so~~ anxious again to see the operations in your Mint now that I can better appreciate what I may witness and benefit from it.

I am, my dear Sir
your faithful Servt
A. C. Cammack

To Dr R. M. Patterson
Director U. S. Mint.

All of my accounts up to the end of 1 qr 1841. have passed and there is now only one item of .80 ¢ difference between the Government & myself.

(Private) U.S. Branch Mint, New Orleans
June 29th 1841

Dear Sir.

I received a letter yesterday from my wife written at Springfield Mass. June 15th, in which she states that when they arrived in Philadelphia, my brother was fearful that he should not get home in time to meet his engagements, in which case he might be deprived of a good situation &c. And that he objected to making any stop in Philadelphia: consequently they arrived in the evening and left the next morning. She received my letter, informing her of my having written to you, just before leaving the city. and had not time to let you know of her conclusion. She was very much fatigued, and probably did not feel as much interest in the case as she should have felt: besides she did not wish to communicate to my brother the necessity of her stopping and as she did not wish to detain him without some good cause, she concluded to go with him direct to Springfield. where she could at any time see Dr Warren of Boston, in six hours. I regret very much that she did not call on you. and I beg you will consider the above circumstances, as an apology for the trouble which my previous letter may have caused you. I fear that her over delicacy. and her peculiar sensitiveness on the subject. with a natural dread of knowing the necessity of an immediate surgical operation. may prevent her from taking such measures. as her otherwise good sense, and the importance of the case would dictate. I have advised her to lose no time in calling on Dr Warren, and learning the worst. but I fear that a thousand circumstances will interpose, to cause delay untill it shall become too serious.

My anxiety to go the North is indescribable; and I am not without hope that an opportunity will be offered me to do so. It appears that the Chimnies of the Melting department require to be rebuilt. and that the operations of this mint must be virtually suspended during the time of rebuilding. The Melter & Refiner tells me that he will lay the facts before the Superintendent so as to warrant a Suspension for 2 months or more; But the Superintendent informs me that he does not feel willing to authorize the work to be done without consulting you. and that he will then ask your consent to Suspend the mint from the 15th of August to the 1st of October. also that he thinks it can be arranged so that I can leave here on the 1st of Aug. and return on the 15th of October. If so. it will be an invaluable privilege to me. as I should not only be able to render my beloved wife such assistance as she may require, and visit friends and aged parents after an absence of nine years. but I think I should be able to get much valuable information by a visit to the Mother Mint. as well as to transact some other business of importance to the Mint and its branches. I shall be very thankfull to you for advice - Please take notice of this months work.

Yours Sincerely.

Philos B. Tyler

To/
Dr R.M. Patterson

Extract of letter from the [illegible] of the [illegible] to the Director [illegible]
June 24 [illegible]

Mint U.S.
June 29th, 1841.

Sir,

I have ~~received~~ to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 18th inst., and am sorry to see that your difficulties as to the title of Mexican dollars still continue. The discrepancies that exist in the assays ~~per~~ of slips taken from different parts of the same bar can be accounted for only by supposing that the melting is not properly executed. It is essential that the metal be well stirred and mixed together in the crucible, and that the heat be such as to give perfect fluidity to the mass. If these precautions be neglected, a uniform fineness cannot be expected, and as the base metal is the lightest, it will occupy the top of the pot, and find its place at the bottom of the bar. Now the variations between ~~the~~ your assays of the ~~same~~ upper and lower parts of the same bar, — amounting to ~~[illegible]~~ 6 th, — prove this imperfect mixture, and I should place no confidence in the conclusion on which your ~~note~~ experiment was made, that the mean of the two assays was the mean of the whole bar. Indeed ~~your report~~ the return is too low even if full weight be given to the first assay, 890.7; for, with this assay, the mean is 895., ~~and without it~~ Without it the mean is 895.8.

You are aware that a test of your returns exists in the assay of the ingots made from the melt, supposing the mixture to be rigidly made on the assumed title of 894.

We continue to take Mexican dollars at 897, and our ingots made on this assumption are quite satisfactory. I therefore retain my former impression, that you do not allow enough for your deposites of Mexican dollars.

When your letter ~~came into my hands~~ was received by me yesterday, I inquired if we had any silver bars on hand, on which a trial of the slips taken from the top and bottom could be made, and I found a very favorable example for the purpose, in two bars and a ~~fragment~~ small piece, from a melt of mixed coins, — some of them base German coins. The qualities were very unequal, and no unusual pains had been taken in melting. The results of the assay are as follows:

No. 1. — Bottom ———— 876
Top ———— 876.5
Top ———— 877
No. 2 — Bottom ———— 876
Top ———— 876.5
No. 3. — Small piece, ~~[illegible]~~ 875.

I am very happy to see that your personal attention has been directed to the very important point involved in your letter, and I hope you will persevere 'till you are satisfied

R. M. P.

To
H. C. Cammack, Esq.
Treasurer of Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

P. S. I find that Dr. McClintock is not at all satisfied with the results given above of the melt of a silver deposite. He thinks the discrepancies, small as they are, show carelessness on the part of his men.

Branch Mint New Orleans
Treasurer's Office 18 June 1841.

Sir

In a recent letter which you wrote to the Superintendent of this Br. Mint you mention that, by your understanding of the laws regulating the mints of the United States, the Treasurer is responsible for the faithful and correct melting of deposites made in the mints for recoinage: with this understanding of my responsibility, I beg to lay before you the result of a melt or assay that was made in this mint a day or two ago.

A deposite for recoinage was made of 47000 mexican dollars by the Mechanics & Traders' Bank of this city. They were spread upon the floor in the usual way, so as to mix them well, and three parcels of about 500 ounces each were taken out from different parts of the mass. Two of these were melted into separate bars, which were assayed and the titles reported by the assayer, as follows

No 786. A. --- 890.7
B. -- 895.5.

The very low rate of the first bar induced me to believe that the true title had not been ascertained: I therefore requested the assayer to cut slips from the reverse side, being the top, of the bars, which he assayed and reported -

A — 896.9
B — 896.4

The third parcel was then melted, partially under my inspection, and slips cut from the top & bottom of the bar, which were reported by the assayer

C - Bottom — 892.
Top — 898.2

and the title of the whole deposite returned at 894.

These irregularities in the titles of bars melted for assay cause me much anxiety and concern lest justice should not be done between the Government and the ~~private~~ depositors by getting an incorrect title, and I now lay these facts before you, with a view of soliciting from you such information and advice in the matter as your experience enables you to give.

Assay slips, in this mint, have usually been cut from the bottom of bars melted for assay, and from the fact that Mexican dollars generally have been reported very low at this mint, sometimes lately @ 892. 893 &c, I fear that we may have failed in our efforts to get the true title of some of our recent deposites.

With assurances of respect & esteem
I am very respectfully
Your faithful Servant
M. Cammack
Treasr

To Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

Fm J. C. Cammack, Esq.
Treas. Br. Mint.
New Orleans.
June 18. 1841.
Recd. 28. —

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

U. S. Branch Mint
N. Orleans, June 4th 1841

Sir,

You will find enclosed the Statement of our Operations for May, which was handed to me yesterday evening by the Treasurer.

I must, at the request of that Officer, renew our application for other weights in order that those we now have, may be sent on to Philadelphia for adjustment. Mr Tyler complains of the inconvenience frequently resulting from there not being a set for the exclusive use of his Department. The delays arising from this circumstance, both there, and in the Treasurer's Office, have often retarded our operations not a little. The removing the weights too, from one Department to another exposes them to the danger of becoming, more or less, inaccurate. You will confer an obligation, by accommodating us in this matter, if possible.

The two last boxes received, a few days since, thro' the Secretary of the Trea-

[illegible]

1 pr. of dime, and 1 pr. of ½ dime dies.

I am, Sir,

Very respectfully,
Yr. obedt. Servt.
J. M. Kennedy
Supt.

R. M. Patterson Esqr.
Director of the
Mint of the U. S.
Phila.

U.S. Branch Mint New Orleans April 19th 1841

Dear Sir.

Although it is now a long time since I last wrote you. It is with pleasure that I resume my pen to address you. And although my communications may never be of so much advantage to you as I could wish, yet to me it will afford satisfaction to communicate those circumstances in which no one but yourself is capable of rendering me assistance or advice. One of which I will relate

About the first of inst. when the Treasurer of this Mint, was paying the workmen for the months of Jan. & Feb. I was surprised at the Treasurer reserving from my brothers, (Nelson Tylers) wages. The sum of $60. which he said was on account of the suspension of my brothers bill for passage from Boston in Dec 1839. —— (My brother felt injured by the manner in which the money was reserved after giving his receipt for the full amount of the pay roll, besides for the bill of $60. which had been paid more than a year before. Particularly as he had never been aware of its being suspended in the Treasurers act nor consulted about its being reserved from his wages &c and could not receive even a receipt in return. And in order to do justice to my brother. I deposited without his knowledge the $60. with the Treasurer, and took a certificate of its receipt and that it should be repaid to me so soon as the bill was passed in Washington — which seems I have now no reason to think will take place without your assistance

Before employing my brother in 1839. I consulted the Superintendent in relation to it. And stated to him that his qualifications &c rendered him a suitable person to be employed as foreman of my department. And that the two persons who had previously occupied that place, had had their passages paid from Philadelphia. And as I knew of no one in New Orleans calculated to fill the place, I requested that my brother might be employed, to which the Supt. fully agreed, on the terms which I had mentioned. I wrote immediately to my brother, that the Supt. wished me to offer him the same wages as had been given to the persons formerly occupying the same place — and to pay his passage from Boston, provided it did not exceed $60. Accordingly my brother left Boston with the distinct understanding that his passage would be paid, or at least $60. towards it. And when he arrived here, the matter was so perfectly understood that the Supt. gave a warrant for the payment of the bill without any hesitation. But it appears that about that time Dr Riddell sent to Vermont for his brother, (a mere plough-boy. 16 or 18 years old) and brought in a bill of $80. for sundry traveling expenses, which was sent to Washington in the same package with my brothers bill, and suspended at the same time — Now I believe you will see plainly a difference between these claims or at least the justness of the one presented by my brother.

And if you can represent it to the Secretary of the Treasury in this view, I have no doubt but it will be entered to the credit of our Treasurer, and I assure you it confer a particular favour on me. ———

We have now a supply of dies. having received 2 more pair of ½ dollars to day — except for dimes the last of which have just stamped about 130.000 pieces, and are worn out — I fear we do not meet your expectations in the number of pieces struck with each pair of dies. As I believe our dies for ½ dollars do not generally strike more than about 100.000 pieces — and our dimes & ½ dimes from one to two hundred thousand. Though we have in one instance stamped more than 300.000 pieces with one pair of dime dies. Yet it sometimes occurs that they do not stamp more than ten, or twenty thousand. In all of which I believe there is no mystery, which I have not fully investigated. I believe that in most of the cases when the dies have not stamped their full compliment, lately, it has occurred through some irregularity in the presses — I am happy to state however, that the ¼ dollar pieces has never stamped less than 200.000 pieces, with one pair of dies — I believe the ~~case~~ eccentric, as well as the other improvements in the feeding apparatus which you have adopted would be of much advantage to our dime press — I understand that your new dime press, never misses any pieces, which must be very agreeable, and economical in its use of dies — I have been constantly trying to obviate the existing evils of all the machinery in my department. but do not like to make any alterations in the presses, untill suggested by the experience of the Mother Mint. Our first great evil however. of the irregularity of the Steam Engine is now entirely obviated by the adoption of a new governor — I have also given the milling machines some attention, untill we are able to mill 1000. pieces per minute. I have only altered one of the machines. which mills ½ dimes & dimes. ¼ & ½ eagles — after completing I found some difficulty in supplying it with planchetts. but have finally adopted a plan, by which one man mills 10,000. pieces. in ~~sixty~~ ten minutes. — We have also adopted your plan of guides on the rolls. which I find a benefit to the adjusting — I am now making some improvements in our process of annealing & blanching planchetts. which I hope to modify so as to enable one man to take the planchetts from the piercing machines, and prepare them for the coining presses, as a fair proportion of labor in my department. The principle improvement will be the use of steam for heating the pickle & saw dust, — by doing which our 7 by 9. bleaching room will be disencumbered of its. bleaching & roasting furnaces. and the heavy lifting, from place to place be greatly diminished — but of the results, I will speak hereafter — I hope to have dies enough prepared beforehand to last us through the sickly season — 2. or 3 extra ½ dollar tails are now needed

Very Respectfully Yours, R.B. Tyler Coin

Mint of the United States,
June 18th, 1841.

Sir,

I have lately heard, from the agent of Mr. Geo. Greenfield of New York, that Dr. Riddell's sweep has not been yet sent on to that house, and I therefore fear that it is still at your Mint. This gives rise to a delay in settling satisfactorily the account of the Melter & Refiner, which ought to be avoided.

~~On~~ ~~[illegible]~~ At my request Dr. McClintock has kindly consented to undertake the assay and sale of your sweep, if you choose to send it to Philadelphia. This would relieve you from some risk; for Mr. Greenfield always takes the sweep at our estimate, and pays for it in advance. Before this course was adopted, we not only lost by the asserted valuation of the Refiner, but had sometimes great difficulty in getting our payment.

P.S. Your report for ~~May~~ was duly received.

R. M. P.

To John M. Kennedy Esq.
Sup. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

Mint U. S. —
June 11th, 1841.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 9th inst., transmitting the correspondence of the Superintendent and Melter & Refiner of the New Orleans Mint, on the subject of the introduction of Slave labor into that Mint, and asking my opinion in relation to this matter.

I reply, without hesitation, that I ~~am oppo~~ think ~~the project~~ ~~the proposal~~ the proposal of Dr. Riddell to ~~which to~~ employ~~ment of~~ Slaves, as workmen in the Mint, ~~are~~ is very objectionable, and I will state the following, among other reasons, for my opinion.

First, as it is out of the question that all the ~~labor~~ work can be entrusted to Slaves, their partial introduction would bring the white and black races together, either on such terms of equality as are ~~revolting~~ revolting and impracticable in the Southern States, or ~~would~~ so as to confine the whites to the mere office of overseers, and thus deprive the institution of their personal labor~~, so that even the expected economy, small as it is, would not be so realized~~.

Secondly, the Blacks being a degraded and ignorant race, are not as worthy of trust as the whites, and it would ~~be~~ therefore be dangerous to place reliance on their honesty. This, indeed, is not proposed by Dr. Riddell, who places his dependence upon clothes without pockets, ~~and~~ other precautions. I have, I confess, little faith in devices of this kind. ~~As no man should be admitted into such an establishment~~ The ~~naked~~ slaves who work in the diamond mines of Brazil, though kept naked, still find means of secreting the ~~pure~~ valuable gems about their persons. ~~In watchfulness~~

Thirdly. One of the most important means of securing the fidelity of men in a Mint, is the system which necessarily exists among them of mutual supervision. Where men are constantly working together, it is almost impossible that one should pilfer without being seen by some of the others sooner or later. All are virtually overseers for the rest. But in the system proposed by Dr. Riddell, ~~the whole~~, ~~I presume~~ the freeman alone is overseer, and, ~~then, it may be~~ besides the objection of less effective vigilance, it may be significantly asked who is to oversee him. Quis custodiet custodem? Not the ~~slaves~~ creatures of his will, the mere machinery moved by his hand. If they should even detect him, or any other white man about the establishment, in a fraud, their evidence would not be received, ~~He is placed then, in a dangerous~~ tempting position ~~of impunity~~ ~~(The watchfulness of honest~~ and this fact alone seems to ~~be~~ me to be a sufficient objection to the proposed measure.

~~an intelligent man is useful even as it regards the officer at the head of a department.~~ ~~One such officer, at the Philadelphia Mint, was actually accused of peculation by~~ ~~one of his~~ ~~a workmen under him,~~ ~~and,~~ ~~although I believe that the accusation was false and malicious,~~ ~~the fact shows that~~ ~~in this particular case, I should be sorry that an officer should be placed in a position where his actions could not be seen even by those in his employ~~

~~Fout~~ Fourthly. Mr. Kennedy remarks that there is no provision, either in the law or instructions relative to the Mint, opposed to the measure ~~lay~~ brought forward by Dr. Riddell. This is true, because the case was not foreseen. There is, however, in another ~~department~~ branch of the government, a ~~provision~~ rule ~~regulation~~ which bears very directly upon the question. I allude to the regulation of the Post Office Department which forbids the employment of Slaves or even of free blacks as drivers of the Mail Coaches or Carriers of the mail.

The last reason which I deem it necessary to mention, is the unnecessary shock which the proposed measure would give to both the parties into which our country is divided on the subject of Slavery. The Slave holders would consider it a degradation to employ slaves, along with white men, in the important and responsible operations of a mint; and the anti-slavery party consider the ~~employment~~ use of ~~slave labor a sin~~ hiring of slaves a sin inferior only to that of owning them.

On the whole, then, I cannot approve of the employment of slaves as workmen at the Mints. The saving estimated by Dr. Riddell is very trifling, even if it should be realized, which I doubt. The remark, made in Dr. Riddell's letter, that he has heard that slaves are employed at the Dahlonega Mint, gave me great astonishment. ~~It is it would be strange, indeed, if~~ I am confident that it is a mistake; but I have written without delay, to make the inquiry. I think it, indeed, not improbable that slaves may have been employed for some temporary menial service, but it cannot be that they have been received into the establishment as workmen.

R. M. P.

To/ Hon. Thomas Ewing,
Sec. of Treasury.

Treasury Department
June 9th. 1841.

Sir,

I transmit herewith a communication received from the Sup. of the Branch Mint at N. Orleans & will thank you for your opinion in relation to the suggestion contained in the letter from the Melter & Refiner enclosed by Mr. Kennedy.

I remain very Respy

T. Ewing
Sec. of the Treasury.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philada.

Mint U. S.
June 4th, 1841.

Sir,

In answer to the inquiry made in your letter of the 2d inst. respecting a charge made against Edmund Forstall, the late Treasurer of the New Orleans Branch Mint, "for 8.698 oz. standard gold bullion, short credited to Mess. Lizardi & Co.", I have to ~~make the following statement~~ state that a deposite of silver containing gold was made ~~at the~~ by this house, and that, by an oversight, as it is ~~believed~~ supposed, of the Assayer, a proper credit was not given for the gold. Subsequently it ~~was ascertained~~ appears that gold, ~~contained in~~ from the deposite, ~~and of the~~ amounting to 8.698 oz. standard, was returned to the treasurer by the Melter & Refiner, Mr. Maxwell. This case was one of the subjects of complaint and investigation, during the troubles at the New Orleans Mint, and, as such, came under my particular consideration, and the result ~~is expressed in the following extract of a letter from me to the Superintendent, Mr. Kennedy, of the 9th of Nov. 1839~~ will be found in a report from me, accompanying that from ~~Slidell the~~ the District Attorney Slidell, sent to the Secretary of the Treasury on the 17th of October, 1839. On this was founded the instruction referred to in the entry of Mr. Cammack, and which is given in the following extract from my letter to the Superintendent, of the 9th of November 1839.

"It has also been determined to my satisfaction, that Mr. Maxwell, in the settlement of July 1838, returned to Mr. Forstall the item of 8.698 ozs of standard gold, as so much more ascertained to be in the silver deposits of Mess. Lizardi and Co., than was at first reported. This amount has never been settled, nor even certified to the depositor. Mr. Forstall is therefore liable directly to government, which, in its turn, is liable to Mess. Lizardi and Co., for that much more than appears in his accounts. This matter has been thoroughly investigated here, and the above is my deliberate judgment upon it."

On the 28th of October 1839 Mr. Cammack wrote a letter to me, from which the following is an extract. — "One or two trifling errors, between the amount of certificates issued and the nett value of deposits, have been corrected. There is one, however, about which I am at a loss. Manuel Fagoso, on the 6th of August, deposited bullion valued at $125.37: a certificate was issued for $153.92: was paid on the 8th: the difference stands to his debit." On the 14th of November, I wrote as follows, to Mr. Cammack, ~~with regard~~ in respect to this case. —
"As it regards — — — — — — presumption."

R. M. P.
D. M.

To/
Jesse Miller Esq.
First Auditor of Treasury.

Treasury Department
First Auditor's office
June 2d 1841

Sir

In an abstract furnished by Mr. Cammack the present Treasurer of the New Orleans Branch Mint in regard to the transactions during Mr. Forstall's official period, he makes the following charge against Mr. Forstall — "This amount charged to Mr. Forstall by instructions of the Director of the Mint, in his letter of 9th November 1839, being for oz's 8$^{\underline{698}}$ standard Gold bullion (equivalent to $161.82) short credited to M. de Lizardi & Co in a deposite of bullion made by them in April 1838" — As Mr. Cammack has not furnished a copy of your letter, to avoid the great delay that would necessarily ensue writing to him, I have thought proper to write to you to request that you will please to furnish this office with all the information in your possession in regard to the above mentioned charge as soon as practicable

I have the honor to be
very respectfully
Your obdt Servt
Jno Miller

To R. M. Patterson Esq
Director of the Mint
at Phila

P. S. There is also another item of $28.35 said to be an overpayt for a deposite made by Manuel Fragoso and charged to him in compliance with your instructions

(Confidential)

U.S. Br. Mint New Orleans May 26th 1841

My Dear Sir

My Lady left New Orleans Yesterday, in company with my brother Nelson, on a visit to her friends at the North, with the view of benefiting her health. Some six months since, she discovered, what she imagined to be a cancer near her right breast; when I immediately consulted Dr Warren Stone (our best surgeon), who thought it was not a cancer, but something which would require to be taken out. He has examined it once since, and was still in doubt, but thought it could be easily cut out. It has been constantly growing in size, and assuming more the symptoms of a cancer, such as shooting pains &c, untill we are very much alarmed about it. And I have thought it of the utmost importance that it should be examined by some eminent Physician, when she arrives in Philadelphia. And on account of her wish that it should not be mentioned to her friends, unless it should prove serious, I told her I would write to you, for advice, and assistance, which I have no doubt you will be willing to render, in the manner which I will propose. It was her intention not to stay in Philadelphia more than one or two days, but to proceed to her uncles in Meridan Conn. where she wishes to remain about four weeks; after which to go to Boston to remain through the summer. Now my wish is that you would employ, the best Physician with which you are acquainted, to examine her case, on her arrival in Philada. of which you will be informed by her, and to advise her, whether it is most advisable to go directly to her friends in Boston, where she would wish to be, in case a surgical operation was necessary under the charge of Dr Warren, an acquaintance of the family; or if some means can be used by which the disease can be driven away and allow her to continue her contemplated visit.

I beg also that you will confer with the physician, and not permit him to persuade her to any course, in which her hapiness is not the sole object. You can imagine perhaps how anxious I have been to accompany her; but no one can be better aware of the circumstances which prevent my leaving here, than yourself. I feel confident you will pardon my troubling you with so important and delicate a trust, for which I hope to be ever grateful.

Mrs Tyler (the widow) left New Orleans, with her children on the 21st inst. on board the barque Josephine, for Philadelphia. Mr Baldwin can inform you of the arrangement we have made for her future support. You will find your little namesake, a promising child.

I beg you will write me so soon as anything occurs to alleviate my suspense on account of the fears I feel for my beloved wife. And should there be a possibility of my leaving here, long enough to go to the north, if it is but for one month I pray you will give me early advice of it.

I am aware of the favour you did us last year, in procuring our short suspension. And I hope you will think it advisable for us to do the same this summer, which however, I leave with that Being, who is ever merciful and just.

You may expect, my wife to be

about the 6th of June. as she has gone by the way of Pitsburg.

I am Sincerely
Your Faithful Servant
Philos B. Tyler

To
Dr R. M Patterson
Philadelphia

Mint U.S.
May 22d 1841.

Sir,

I have duly received your letter of the 11th inst.

I thank you for the copy ~~it~~ you have sent me of your balance sheet to the end of March. I am always pleased to be kept informed of the transactions of the Branch Mints. As to the ~~balance~~ amounts of bullion in the hands of the Melter & Coiner, it is impossible for me to judge whether ~~it~~ they are excessive or not, since I ~~do not~~ am not informed of the dates of the deposites. I regret exceedingly, however, to observe that so ~~much~~ [illegible] large an amount of deposites remains unpaid. I hope that Dr. Riddell & Mr. Tyler will spare no exertion to give you the means of prompt payments on this account.

I think you need have no apprehension as to making payments of the deposites, ~~when~~ in the cases which you mention, where the original receipts have been lost. We have frequently made payment when the depositor had merely forgotten or neglected to bring the rough Mint receipt. The important point is that the Mint have his duplicate receipts for the payment when made.

I am surprised that you should have any difficulty as to the course to be taken with counterfeit dollars offered on deposite. Receive them, by all means, and cut them, if you like, — but do not return them. They almost all contain silver enough to be worth coining, and we frequently melt them down for coinage, when known to be false. Indeed we have had pretty large deposites of ~~them made~~ known counterfeits made ~~for sale or for coinage~~ and coined.

R. M. P.
D

To/
H. C. Cammack, Esq.
Treasurer of Br. Mint
New Orleans.

P.S. — I find that I have been mistaken as to your question ~~as to~~ respecting counterfeit coins, and that you refer to money paid into the Sub treasury. In the cases of this kind which have occurred here, the coins have always been cut, a very proper practice which I am told is uniformly pursued by the Banks.

Mint of the U. S.
May 13, 1841.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending to you, by the present Mail, a box of dies, ~~for the~~ directed, on the inner envelope, to the Supt. of the New Orleans Br. Mint, to be forwarded under your frank.

Very respectfully,
your faithful Servt.
R. M. P.
Dir.

To/
Hon. Thos. Ewing,
Sec. of Treas.

Branch Mint New Orleans
Treasurer's Office May 10. 1841.

Sir

Two individuals who have made deposits in this mint for recoinage inform me that they have lost their receipts and they have applied for payment offering to guarantee me f against loss in case the receipts should appear at any future time. Please to inform me what is the practice at your mint under similar circumstances.

Enclosed I hand you copy of our balance to 31. ~~december~~ March. I am afraid that you will find that we have too large an amount on hand in the form of Bullion, considering that we have debts against us that are pressing.

In the deposites that are made here under the law of 4 July 1840, it happens always that a number of Counterfeit dollars are discovered and rejected. I wish to know if I can be permitted to cut, disfigure or mark these Counterfeits. One of the clerks, who counts the money, thinks that some of them have been presented here more than once.

I am, Sir
Your mo obt st
H.C. Cammack
Treasr

To
Dr. R. M. Patterson

Statement of Silver deposits received at Branch Mint at New Orleans
during the First quarter of 1841.

No.	Description of Bullion	Fineness	Gross Weight		Weight after melting		
512	Mexican Dollars	897	166	65	166	90	A.
513	Mex. Dolls & German coins	894	957	30	956	45	
514	Mex. Cut dollars & Hammd. Dolls	902	246	25	246	60	
515	Mexican Dollars	898	16	60	16	40	
516	Do Do	897	140	90	140	70	A.
517	Do Do	897	863	40	862	55	A.
518	Do Do	897	646	50	646	90	A.
519	Spanish Dollars	898	866	80	860	05	A.
520	Mixed Coins	897	86	75	86	65	A.
521	Fine grain pieces	894	949	00	948	15	
522	Mexican Dollars	897	226	30	226	10	A.
523	Do Do	897	16	70	16	60	A.
524	Do Do	897	172	90	172	70	A.
525	Do Do	897	260	30	260	05	A.
526	Do Do	897	167	20	166	25	A.
527	Do Do	897	433	40	433	00	A.
528	Do Do	897	434	00	433	60	A.
529	Do Do	897	91	60	91	50	A.
530	Do Do	897	866	10	865	35	A.
531	Do Do	897	91	60	90	40	A.
532	Do Do	897	519	50	519	05	A.
533	Do Do	897	183	20	183	00	A.
534	Mixed Coins	892	164	00	162	70	
535	Do Do	876	397	95	396	00	
536	Mexican Dollars	897	261	65	261	40	A.
537	Do Do	897	195	25	195	15	A.
538	Do Do	897	86	70	86	60	A.
539	Do Do	897	172	90	172	70	A.
540	Mixed Coins	897	86	20	86	10	A.
541	Mexican Dollars	897	258	10	257	85	A.
542	Do Do	897	173	00	172	85	A.
543	Do Do	897	86	50	86	40	A.
544	Do Do	896	430	90	430	50	
545	Do Do	890	433	80	433	40	
546	Do Do	896	1.729	70	1.728	20	
547	Do Do	896	603	90	603	35	
548	Do Do	896	86	50	86	40	
549	Mixed Coins	879	130	00	129	15	
550	Mexican Dollars	896	233	80	233	50	

551	Mexican	Dollars	896	86	20	86	10
552	Do	Do	896	437	50	437	10
553	Do	Do	896	601	30	600	75
554	Mixed	Coins	894	857	00	856	20
555	Mexican	Dollars	896	86	30	86	20
556	Do	Do	896	87	00	86	90
557	Mixed	Coins	890	332	00	331	60
558	Mexican	Dollars	896	86	80	86	70
559	Do	Do	896	1,736	80	1,735	30
560	Do	Do	896	1,736	50	1,735	00
561	Mexican & Hammered	Dollars	889	500	20	499	50
562	Mexican	Dollars	896	86	95	86	85
563	Do	Do	895	158	10	157	95
564	Do	Do	895	86	70	86	60
565	Do	Do	896	86	55	86	45
566	Do	Do	895	864	90	864	15
567	Do	Do	895	180	25	180	10
568	Do	Do	895	172	96	172	80
569	Do	Do	895	85	90	85	80
570	Do	Do	895	86	80	86	70
571	Do	Do	895	105	75	105	65
573	Do	Do	892½	7,691	75	7,655	60
574	Do	Do	896	173	30	173	15
575	Do	Do	878	866	15	865	80
576	Do	Do	894	14,756	15	14,743	40
577	Do	Do	895	86	50	86	40
578	Do	Do	885	433	20	432	50
579	Do	Do	895	211	80	210	60
580	Do	Do	892½	2,597	80	2,595	55
581	Do	Do	897	13,883	85	13,871	85
582	Do	Do	896	13,882	70	13,860	70
583	Do	Do	894	866	75	866	00
584	Do	Do	898	130	85	130	70
585	Do	Do	897	13,023	50	13,012	25
586	Do	Do	897	8,681	05	8,673	55
587	Do	Do	897	13,011	35	13,010	60
588	Do	Do	895	481	55	481	10
589	American	Silver plate	813	100	70	96	96
590	Mexican	Dollars	896	868	35	867	60
591	Mixed	Coins	897	691	80	691	50
592	Mexican	Dollars	898	86	80	86	80
593	Do	Do	896	86	50	86	35
594	Mexican	Dollars	897	1,688	45	1,675	95
595	Silver	plate	892	161	20	159	60
596	Mexican	Dollars	897	89	20	89	05
597	Do	Do	871	86	55	86	45
598	Do	Do	896	4,425	65	4,421	70
599	Mixed	Coins	893	85	90	85	70
600	Mexican	Dollars	897	86	90	86	70
601	Mixed	Coins	898	222	00	221	70
602	Mexican	Dollars	894	560	55	560	10
603	Do	Do	895	521	90	521	60
604	Do	Do	897	86	85	86	75
605	Do	Do	897	895	30	894	95
606	Mixed	Coins	893	524	10	523	15
607	Mexican	Dollars	897	86	70	86	60
608	Mixed	Coins	890	85	30	84	80
609	Mexican	Dollars	897	86	65	86	55
610	Mixed	Coins & [illegible] Dollars	910	364	50	363	10
611	Mexican	Dollars	895	86	15	86	05
612	Do	Do	896	500	50	500	05
613	Do	Do	898	86	80	86	70
614	Do	Do	891	86	90	86	80
615	Do	Do	895	86	60	86	50
616	Do	Do	897	86	55	86	45
617	Do	Do	897	86	50	86	40
618	Do	Do	896	898	45	896	95

Note. Title of deposites marked
A on the first page assumed.

Branch Mint New Orleans
Treasurers Office 4 May 1841
H. C. Cammack
Trr.

Statement of Gold deposites received at the Branch Mint, New Orleans,
during the First Quarter, of 1841.

No.	Description of Bullion	Fineness	Gross Weight		Weight after Melting	
85	Gold balls & Carolina pieces	891	3	48	3	35
86	Sovereigns	914	153	67	153	52
87	Do	914	669	50	668	80
88	Mexican & Columbian Doubloons	860	72	42	72	37
89	French 20 & 40 Franc pieces	895	70	41	70	40
90	Old American Eagles	911	12	63	12	62
91	Mixed Coins	889	55	02	54	97
92	Columbian Doubloons	867	234	44	234	29
93	Sovereigns	914	12	78	12	76
94	German Coins	892	5	54	5	53
95	Mixed Coins	910	27	16	27	12
96	Do Do (Armells &c)	880	38	18	38	16
97	Do Do & some Old Eagles	907	16	94	16	93
98	German Coins	893	56	73	56	71
99	Alabama Gold dust	965	9	96	9	76
100	Columbian & Mexican doubloons	861	99	84	99	80
101	Mixed Coins	894	14	73	14	71
102	Mexican & Columbian doubloons	860	112	86	112	81
103	German Coins & 2 foreign pieces	890	16	20	16	18
104	Alabama Gold dust	860	68	01	66	73
105	Columbian Doubloons	870	19	97	19	95
106	Mixed Coins	891	12	22	12	20
107	Mexican & Columbian doubloons	863	191	47	191	37
.	Sovereigns & 1/4 Eagles	914.5	86	40	86	35
.	French Gold	898	16	16	16	15
.	German Coins	894	10	34	10	32
.	Italian & Sardinian 20 francs	897	6	11	6	10
.	Carolina $5. pieces	825	2	31	2	29
108	Sovereigns	915	66	25	66	23
107	20 franc pieces	898.5	11	59	11	58
.	Columbian & Mexican doubloons	865	178	61	178	46
109	Sovereigns	915	79	15	79	12
109	Doubloons	863	152	16	151	97

Treasurer's Office 4 May 1841.
A. L. Cammack
Treas.

Copy.

Branch Mint New Orleans
Treasurer's Office May 4th 1841.

Sir

I have your note of last evening, asking me to furnish you with not less than 60,000 ounces, of Bullion to be melted into ingots.

You are aware that the Government deposite that was in the Mint for the purpose of purchasing metal for Coinage has been withdrawn, or reduced to a very small amount, and that it will be necessary for the Officers of the Mint, to work the balances in their hands down much lower than was formerly the case, in order to enable payments to be made to, depositors in any thing like a reasonable time. The deposites now from the public are made solely for the purpose of getting small coins, the inconvenience, and delay, and loss of interest consequent thereon, prevent individuals from depositing for other coins, notwithstanding the gain in Mexican dollars, which is an object, only, when deposites are paid promptly.

The main dependence of the Mint, therefore, for bullion, is the foreign coins, in the money held for the Treasurer of the United States" by me, as a depositary of public moneys, under the law of 1840. I have been authorized to take these for recoinage & substitute for them new coins, – I have put a liberal construction on this authority and have made deposits for coinage before the new coins were ready to replace the amount, but in doing this, it is necessary for me to exercise a caution that will prevent the public money in my hands "which is in fact money in the Treasury of the United States" and subject at any moment to the drafts of the Treasurer, from being placed in a position beyond my control, and also to be careful to be possessed of these new coins before the close of each month, so that the verification of the cash in my possession may be made at that time by the Superintendent as required by law, and the instructions from the Secretary of the Treasury.

By a reference to your bullion accounts, I find to your debit,

Gold Bullion — 1,532,178 ounces or — $ 28,505.63
Silver Bullion, after deducting 12,000 ounces for
two melts of ingots which you have on hand, 22,111 oz. = $ 26.000.00
leaving in your hands, — — $ 54.505.63
out of which you say you cannot make a melt.

This amount seems large to be locked up in one department, when the whole government deposite is under 17,000 ~~dollars~~ ounces.

I hold now certificates for deposites amounting to about $47.000, which have come into the possession of the Government and have been remitted to me from Washington, to be collected & placed to the credit of the Treasurer of the United States, but which you are aware cannot now be paid. This amount due by the Coinage to the Government, cannot be increased by me, under any circumstances whatever. The Secretary of the Treasury in a late letter to me, says, "the state of the Public Treasury will not justify an increase in the "deposite for purchasing metal for this Mint," and to increase this amount, even had I the authority, would be an indirect way of obtaining an increase to that deposite.

The delays which usually attend deposites require me to make them but sparingly, but I am willing to continue them as heretofore, when I see a prospect of replacing the amount from coins that will be delivered to me soon after by the Coiner, but while such large balances are kept by the Officers in their possession, heavy deposites from me, would tend to exclude individuals depositors altogether from payment. You will recollect that during the last month the whole delivery of ingots, was only 56,000 oz, owing to accidents in your department, and that for weeks together, the Coining was entirely stopped for want of dies, these accidents may happen again and they guard me against placing a large deposite at one time in the Mint.

I am sure that I would have no difficulty in keeping the Mint supplied with bullion if it could be worked into coin without delay. This however, can be done in the absence of a large Government deposite, only, by reducing the balances in the hands of the Melter & Refiner, & Coiner.

We are now actually using the Bullion of one depositor to pay another, and when the Citizens Bank calls for her deposite, that has been here since the 22nd January, of 50,000 Dollars, we shall be compelled to make that deduction.

The five franc pieces you mention I am willing to transfer to you, at the title at which they are received at the Philadelphia Mint, if you think you will be safe in taking them at that rate, — or, you may have any portion of them. I would prefer for the present not to deposite them in any other manner, or if you desire it I will make a deposite of a moderate amount of Mexican Dollars.

I am very Respectfully
Your Obt. Servt.
(Signed) H. C. Cammack
Treasurer.

To Dr. Riddell,
Melter & Refiner.

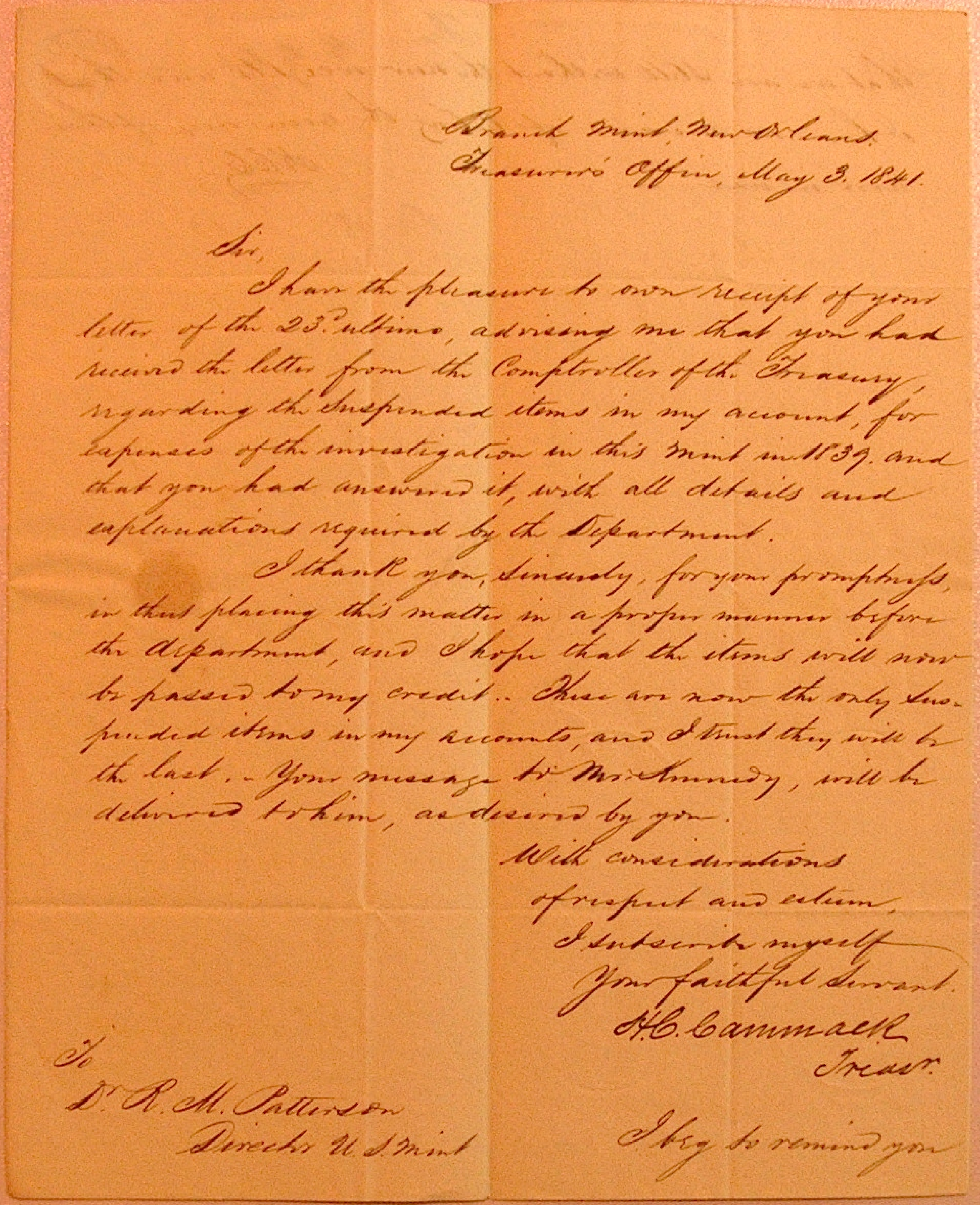
Copy of a letter from
H. C. Cammack, Esq.,
Treas. N. O. Br. Mint,
to Dr. Riddell, M. & R.
dated May 4, '41.

Rec'd ~~[illegible]~~ 7, 1841.
(June)

New Orleans

June 1841

The within is a letter
handed me some
time since by Mr
Cammack — by
which you may
learn something of
the affairs of our
Mint. Resp'ly
R. B. Tyler



Branch Mint, New Orleans.
Treasurer's Office, May 3. 1841.

Sir,

I have the pleasure to own receipt of your letter of the 23d ultimo, advising me that you had received the letter from the Comptroller of the Treasury, regarding the suspended items in my account, for expenses of the investigation in this mint in 1839, and that you had answered it, with all details and explanations required by the Department.

I thank you, sincerely, for your promptness, in thus placing this matter in a proper manner before the Department, and I hope that the items will now be passed to my credit.. These are now the only suspended items in my accounts, and I trust they will be the last. - Your message to Mr Kennedy, will be delivered to him, as desired by you.

With considerations
of respect and esteem,
I subscribe myself
Your faithful Servant.
H. C. Cammack
Treasr.

To
Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director U. S. Mint

I beg to remind you

that we are still without the new weights, and that I have no means of testing the accuracy of those now in use.

H. C. C.

Fr. H. C. Cammack
Treas. U. S. Mint
New Orleans
May 3
Recd. " 13 [illegible]

Mint of the United States.
Philadelphia, April 24th, 1841.

Sir,

Your letter of the 3d was received on the 15th inst., with its accompanying documents, and I now proceed to make a few remarks on the different points which it presents for consideration.

1st. – Dr. Hort's gold Assays.

In Dr. Hort's letter to you, of the 9th of March, he shows a very natural and proper desire to discover the cause of the ~~dif~~ "habitual deficit" in his assays of gold, and thinks that he has found it in the circumstance that the nitric acid, sent to him from Philadelphia, as pure, really contained "a considerable quantity of muriatic acid". On this subject, I will remark, in the first place, that this acid was ordered for you, exactly as it is for ourselves, from the manufacturers Messrs. John Farr & Co. ~~Kunzi~~. ~~[illegible]~~ Your acid, never comes into our hands, and therefore ought always to be tested before it is used. We should feel much astonished, however, ~~to~~ to find nitric acid sold by so respectable a house as pure, to contain so much muriatic acid as to affect sensibly the result of a gold assay.

But, in fact, I cannot understand how a sensible quantity of muriatic acid could be contained in nitric, without its being immediately detected on using it for a gold assay. Into the ~~acid employed~~ 1/4 oz of nitric acid employed for dissolving the silver of an assay cornet, we introduced the 250th part of one drop of muriatic acid, (being about one part in 150,000,) and the milky cloud of chloride of silver was ~~so~~ quite manifest: with 2, 3, 4, & 5 times this amount the cloud became more and more conspicuous. It cannot, therefore, be supposed that your acid contained these amounts. Also I have caused assays to be made with pure nitric acid and with these mixtures, and the results are as follows.

No 1	1000.0	No	Muriatic acid.
2	999.8	1 250th of drop	"
3	999.6	2 "	"
4	999.5	3 "	"
5	999.3	4 "	"
6	999.2	5 "	"

(The same acid was used in all the three charges. In the first, the cloud disappeared during the boiling. A cloud was also formed, in the second and third charges, — probably from the nitrate of silver, which still ~~adhering to the~~ moistened the sides of the matrass, — and this cloud did not disappear during the boiling.

In ~~another~~ previous experiment, the results were as follows: —

No 1.	980.8	~~No~~ Muriatic acid
2	980.6	One 250th of drop of Muriatic Acid
3	980.5	" 167th " "
4	980.3	" 100 " "
5	979.9	" 71 " "
6	979.8	" 50 " "

I have felt it ~~important~~ of importance that these experiments should be communicated to Dr. Hort. They seem to prove that the quantity of muriatic acid mixed with his nitric could not have been sufficient to account for the defect of his assays, without its presence being at once shown by the cloud of chloride of silver formed when the cornet is introduced into it. This chloride appears to be afterwards decomposed, — the chlorine uniting to a portion of the gold, and the silver to the nitric acid. — With Dr. Hort's attention fully turned to the subject, ~~the~~ and with the precautions which he proposes to employ, I have now no apprehensions of further errors, of the same kind, in ~~the~~ his gold assays, yet ~~as matter of curiosity~~ I would be glad if he could discover the true cause of the defect in his former assays.

Let me mention here, that our assayers ~~have~~ long since found it necessary to keep

4/

the bottles containing muriatic acid in a different room from those with nitric acid; for though both were habitually closed with glass stoppers, the ~~former of the former~~ latter acid was found to absorb a trace of the former, and this was shown by a milky cloud formed in making the gold assays.

2d. Assay of Mexican Dollars.

The report, on this important point, contained in Mr. Cammack's letter to you of the 10th of March, shows that the Assayer had found the fineness of two bars from the same melt of 500 oz., to be 892.4 and 895. In your letter to ~~the Board~~ Mr. Cammack of the 15th of the same month, you state that Dr. Riddell had accounted for this discrepancy, by his furnace not ~~being~~ being sufficiently heated, and the metal not properly mixed. Where the qualities of the metals introduced into the pot are very different, — as when fine silver is used to bring up base to standard — such differences occur, but it is rather surprising that it should be presented in a melt composed wholly of dollars. ~~The mean~~ The mean, moreover, (893.7,) is much lower for dollars than we have ever found, and particularly where, as Mr. Cammack mentions, there was "more than the usual number of South American dollars." These results, it seems to me, can ~~only~~ be accounted for only by supposing ~~that~~ there were many counterfeits in the mass.

This to stand.

6.

The second ~~assay~~ trial, which I understand to have been exclusively of Mexican dollars, is reported by Dr. Hort at 896 ths, and this report is confirmed by our Assayer, who found the two specimen pieces sent by you to give 895.5 and 896 ths. In so small a melt as 500 oz., a slight variation from the average standard is not surprising; but we still find it safe, here, to assume 897 as the medium fineness of Mexican dollars. In confirmation of this, I present the following statement of a melt made by us yesterday, in one pot.

	Gross.		Standard.
Mexican dollars	Oz. 14,814.0	at .897 =	14,764.6
Fine frame pieces	" 879.4	" .901 "	880.4
Do.	" 287.6	" .900 "	287.6
	" 15,981.0		15,932.6
Fine Silver	" 435.6	" 1.000	484.0
Clippings &c.	" 4,531.0	" .900	4,531.0
Pot	" 20,947.6	" .900	20,947.6

The pot-assay having proved satisfactory, no change was made in the metal, and it was cast into ingots. Of these, five assays were made, namely of the 6th, the 200th, of those cast after each ~~firing~~ stirring of the pot starting, and of the last ingot. I saw the humid assays myself, and there was not a shade of variation in any of them from the true standard 900. — If the Mexican dollars had been taken at 896 ths instead of 897, there would have been 147.6 oz. more of fine silver required in making up the pots; and the loss by this addition, (if unnecessary,) would have been $18.65. for the ingots being thereby raised only to 900.7 would not have been rejected.

6.

~~these were many counterfeits in the Mass.~~
~~f this could have been inquired into. On~~
~~th this first trial was a very unhappy~~
~~In your letter to Mr. Cammack, you~~
~~tion to have pieces cut from the opposite~~
~~f these bars opposite to those before selec-~~
~~and to cause them to be assayed. I regret~~
~~this does not appear to have been done.~~
~~ver the same difference is not shown in~~
~~ces, which you sent to us, which we found to from~~
~~me bars, and which we found to be 89~~
~~6 ths. The mean of them is 2 ths~~
~~the mean found by Dr. Hunt, and yet it~~
~~is lower than we have ever found met~~
~~here for dollars, and is particularly surpri-~~
~~where, as Mr. Cammack mentions, there~~
~~more than the usual number of South~~
~~ican dollars." Such a result, it seems~~
~~can be accounted for only by suppo-~~
~~that there were many counterfeits in~~
~~mass.~~
~~I am glad that you have ordered a new~~
~~inclusively of Mexican dollars, and~~
anxious to have the result.
Dr. Hunt's assays of ~~slips~~ pieces taken from each
f the same bars ~~app~~ are satisfactory.
differences as he met with may well

occur, and may have their origin partly in real differences in the metal, and partly in unavoidable ~~variations in the assa~~ errors in the process of assaying.

Mr. Eckfeldt ~~that~~ informs me that he does not invariably ~~throw off~~ deduct the decimals in reporting an assay of silver. In a small deposite he would have reported 897.8 or 898. In large deposites he ~~reports~~ gives the next half a millieme below the assay, and would have ~~given~~ reported 897.8 or 897½.

A perusal of the act of Jan 18, 1837, will show Mr. Cammack that all deposites are legally in his keeping until they are reported upon by the Assayer, and transferred from the Treasurer to the Melter & Refiner at their estimated standard weight. I am well aware of the anomaly that occurs with regard to those deposites which require melting before assay; but, although it was fully presented to my mind when I was preparing the draught of the law in question, I could see no practical method by which it could be avoided. In practice, it will, I presume, very rarely give rise to any difficulty. ~~Them doubts have been presented as to the fidelity with which this four preliminary melting has been done,~~

3. Melter & Refiner's Wastage Account.

On this subject, I have very little to say now, having given my views, with regard to it, at large, in my ~~let~~ communication to you of the 17th of February.— I was then, as you see, under the impression that you must have omitted to credit Dr. Riddell with the estimated value of his sweep, and I asked that the account might be reopened, principally for the purpose of introducing this item into it. I find, from the statements now sent to me, that I was unfortunately mistaken in this point, ~~and I now see nothing left but to beg that the utmost care and vigilance be used for the future.~~— I observe that you have directed the Treasurer to correct, ~~it~~ on his books, the error by which the Melter & Refiner received credit for 300 oz. of silver alloy for gold.— I ~~so can~~ agree with you that no more satisfactory result is likely to arise from opening again the wastage account, and I can now only beg that the utmost care and vigilance be used for the future.

Mint U.S.
April 23d /41.

Sir,

I have duly received your letter of the 13th inst, and I believe the only part of it which calls for an answer is that which has regard to the suspended item for the expenses of the investigation at your Mint in 1839. When the Comptroller of the Treasury wrote to you on the subject, on the 31st of March, he also wrote to me, but unfortunately *both* letters were directed to New Orleans, and mine, which was remailed by Mr. Kennedy, did not come into my hands until yesterday. I have replied to it, with all the details and explanations that can be required by the Department, and I have no doubt that they will prove satisfactory, and that your account will be allowed.

Please to tell Mr. Kennedy that I expect to be able to reply tomorrow to his communications of the 3d inst., which, by the by, were not received until the 16th. My answer has been delayed in consequence of the letter sent enclosed from Dr. Hort, which made it necessary for me to institute some experimental investigations.

R. M. P.

To H. C. Cammack Esq
Treasurer of Br. Mint,
New Orleans

Mint of the United States.
April 23d, 1841.

Sir,

Your letter of the 31st of March, respecting the ~~charges of~~ payments made to Messrs Davis and Slidell for their services during the investigation at the New Orleans Branch Mint in 1839, was, by a mistake of your Clerk, directed to New Orleans, whence it was remailed to me on the 13th of April, so that it did not come into my hands until yesterday. I now proceed to give the explanation for which you ask.

In ~~consequence of~~ the month of May 1839, the attention of the Secretary of the Treasury ~~was~~ having been called to difficulties existing among the officers of the New Orleans Mint, and a recommendation ~~was~~ having been made to him, by the Superintendent, Mr Bradford, that the Melter & Refiner of that Branch should be removed, the Secretary, on the 20th of May, wrote to me as follows: — "As further information seems to be required to enable the Department to come to a proper decision, I have to request that you will write to and employ the District Attorney at New Orleans, to enquire fully as to the qualifications and efficiency of the present officers of the establishment, and of those recommended to succeed the Melter & Refiner and Coiner, in the event of their removal, — and to report to you fully as to the character of the officers implicated, and the state of the Branch Mint generally and its difficulties."

In compliance with these instructions, I addressed a ~~letter~~ ~~immediately~~ communication, with the least delay, to the ~~District~~ U.S. Attorney for the Eastern District of Louisiana, Thomas Slidell Esq., ~~to~~ engaging him in the required investigation, — ~~and~~ ~~giving~~ calling his attention to ~~the~~ some points ~~requiring~~ demanding particular ~~attention~~ inquiry, — and sending him necessary documents.

The investigation was undertaken accordingly, and proved to be ~~from~~ exceedingly painful, laborious, and difficult. Eighteen days were occupied in the examination of witnesses, ~~— the sittings continuing often until late in the night.~~

A Notary Public was necessarily employed, who charged $10 per diem for his attendance, $500 for his original draft of the proceedings, and $250 each for three copies of this draft, — one furnished to me, one to Mr. Slidell, — and one, (on their special demand) to the parties implicated, to enable them to prepare their defence. My copy is now before me, and contains 355 folio pages.

~~This~~ The above bill of charges has the following endorsement. — "The said services were rendered, at my request, by Horatio Davis, ~~Esq.~~ Notary Public of New Orleans, who was employed by me to administer oaths to the witnesses, take down

the testimony, and prepare the copies thereof. With a view of not interrupting the business of the Mint, the sittings commenced at 4½ P.M., and usually continued till after midnight. I consider the bill a just and reasonable one, and accordingly approve the same. — U.S. Dist. Atty. Office, — New Orleans, Nov. 12, 1839. (Signed) Thomas Slidell, U.S. Atty. East. Dist. La."

In answer to a letter which I addressed to the Secretary of the Treasury on the subject of the above charge, he ~~so~~ writes, under date of 29th Nov. 1839, — "Your communication enclosing the bill from Horatio Davis for his services during the investigation at the Branch Mint at New Orleans, has been received; and in reply I have to remark, that a compensation which appears to you to be reasonable should be paid out of the Mint Funds, on which it would seem to form a proper charge." — With the certificate of the District Attorney, that he considered the bill a just and reasonable one, and accordingly approved the same," ~~I felt that~~ and the above instructions from the Secretary, I felt that I could not do otherwise than to return Mr. Davis's bill to the New Orleans Mint for payment, which I accordingly did on the 3d of Dec., '39.

Mr. Slidell's report was not completed until August 1839, at which time he was in New York. It is a very able one, drawn up great impartiality (and ability) and evidently the result of great labor. It consists of 5 closely written folio pages.— Mr. Slidell's bill for ~~Mr. Slidell's~~ his services, on this occasion, ~~amounting to $1000~~, was referred to me by Mr. Jos. M. Kennedy, the Superintendent of the New Orleans Branch Mint, by a letter dated the 8th and received on the 22d of February 1840. In my answer, of the 16th of March following, I say,— "In your letter of the 8th ult., you submit to my approval the charge made by Mr. Slidell for the services rendered by him at the investigation held in your Mint. I have now to state, that, after giving this charge full consideration, and taking into view the labor, time, and anxiety which the investigation cost, and the tariff for professional services understood to be established in New Orleans, I cannot pronounce Mr. Slidell's charge of one thousand dollars unreasonable, and that I think you would be justified in paying it, when you shall be in funds to enable you to do so."

In a letter from Mr. Slidell, dated New York Aug 29th 1839, he mentions that his report, ~~with~~ which was in the hands of the copyist, would be ready, with the documents, on the Wednesday following, and he suggests my sending on a Clerk for it. As the papers were too voluminous to be sent by mail, and too important to be entrusted to a stranger, I felt the propriety of sending a special messenger for them; and, as our clerks were, at that time,

too much engaged to leave the Mint, I sent my son Robert Patterson,— and this is the ~~ex~~ explanation of the charge of $110.75, for the messenger, and (I presume it will be acknowledged) moderate expenses of the journey.

R. M. P.

To
Jas. N. Barker, Esq.
First Comptroller of the Treasury.

Branch Mint New Orleans
Treasurer's Office 13 April 1841.

Dear Sir

I received in due course your letter of the 15th February and yesterday Mr Kennedy handed me your letter of 29 March, with your account and vouchers for the 1st Quarter of the present year which you enclosed to him.

My accounts for ordinary expences for last qur. are already closed and the amounts paid by you will be charged in the present quarter's accounts.

I have a letter from the Comptroller of the Treasury under date of 31 March, in which he informs me that he has written to you requesting explanations of the amounts paid by me to Messrs Davis & Slidell, for services during the investigation, which sums, he says, cannot be allowed, as the accounting officers are, at present, advised. He will await your reply, however, before allowing or rejecting them.

The amount of the two drafts drawn on you by Mr Forstall appears to have been passed to my credit.

I am,
very respectfully
your faithful Servant
H. C. Cammack
Treasurer

To
Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia.

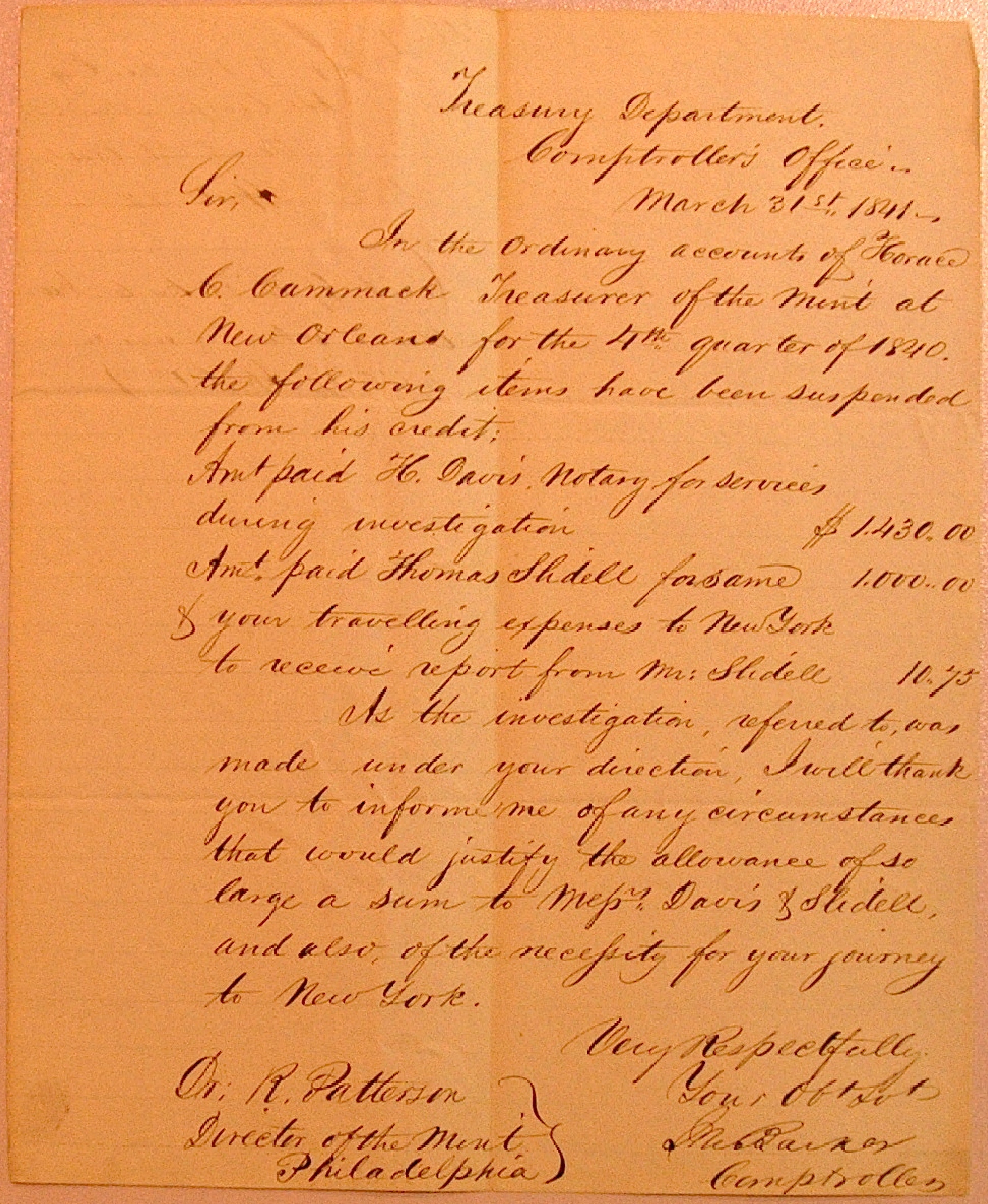
Dear Sir

Dr Hort wishing to place two hundred dolls in Philadelphia, where he has ~~two daughters~~ two children at School, I have given him the above draft on you, which I beg you to honor out of the funds in your hands, belonging to this Branch Mint; and, if convenient to you, I will be glad, if you will pay the Amount, in gold coins - as I have received the sum in that metal, from Dr Hort. -

I am,
Yours very truly,
H. C. Cammack
Treasurer.

To Dr Patterson

Draft dated April 14, 1841.



Treasury Department.
Comptroller's Office.
March 31st. 1841.

Sir,

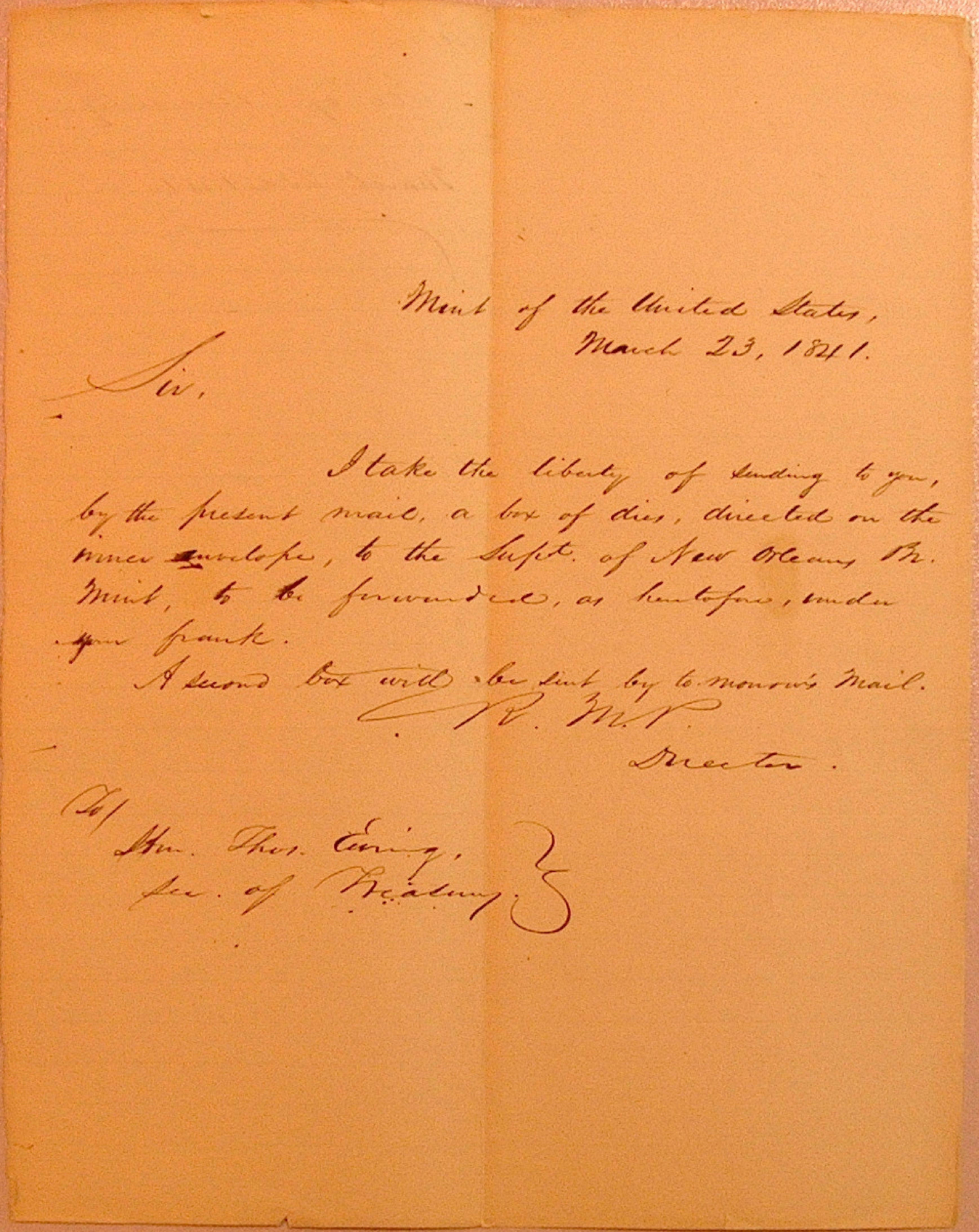
In the Ordinary accounts of Horace C. Cammack Treasurer of the Mint at New Orleans for the 4th quarter of 1840. the following items have been suspended from his credit;

Amt paid H. Davis, Notary for services during investigation	$ 1.430.00
Amt. paid Thomas Slidell for same	1.000.00
& your travelling expenses to New York to receive report from Mr. Slidell	10.75

As the investigation, referred to, was made under your direction, I will thank you to inform me of any circumstances that would justify the allowance of so large a sum to Meſsrs. Davis & Slidell, and also, of the neceſsity for your journey to New York.

Very Respectfully.
Your Obt St
J. N. Barker
Comptroller

Dr. R. Patterson
Director of the Mint.
Philadelphia



Mint of the United States,
March 23, 1841.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending to you, by the present mail, a box of dies, directed on the inner envelope, to the Supt. of New Orleans Br. Mint, to be forwarded, as heretofore, under your frank.

A second box will be sent by to-morrow's Mail.

R. M. P.
Director.

To/
Hon. Thos. Ewing,
Sec. of Treasury.

With Bill of lading No. 66.

Mint of the United States,
March 19, 1841.

Sir,

Herewith I send you a bill of lading of ~~articles for the use of your Mint~~ a clay furnace, ~~and~~ fire bricks, & tiles, for the use of your Mint. These articles have been ordered for a long time; but Mr. Miller, owing to a removal of his establishment, &c., has not been able to furnish them till this time.

I have duly received your letter of the 27th ult., ~~and have given directions to have the dies asked for in which you enumerate certain dies needed by your coinage, and I have given directions to have them~~ & the dies which you ask for are in the course of preparation.

R.M.P.
Director.

To/
Jos. M. Kennedy, Esq.

U. S. Branch Mint N. Orle
April 3rd 1841.

Sir,

I send herewith a number of documents, marked from 1 to 6 inclusive.

In accordance with your wish Mr Cammack had caused a deposite of Mexican Dollars of about 500 to be melted under his own inspection. From the two bars into which it was cast, assay slips have been cut of which one set has been tested by Dr Hort, and another you will find enclosed in the certificate of the Assayer marked No 1. I think it my duty to state that the melt above mentioned was the second made under your letter of the 12th February. My reasons for allowing it to be made and which, I hope you will find satisfactory, are contained in a letter written by me to the Treasurer (marked No 2) in consequence of one I had previously recd from the Melter & Refiner, in which he says. "I caused the melt to be cast into moulds, as soon as I thought it probably hot enough. But I was mistaken as to the real temperature, for from the manner of its flowing the pots, and from the fact that the usual stirring did not effect a sufficiently homogeneous mixture of the different [illegible]

“ It was cast [illegible] so hot as we usually
“ pour Silver deposits.”
“ I shall therefore with your approval be
“ pleased to have another similar melt made
“ in the presence of the Treasurer &c”

After his compliance with the directions given in the concluding paragraph of my letter to the Treasurer Mr. A. Wager made to me the report marked No. 3 — Document No. 4. was drawn from Dr. Hort, after [illegible] by your letter to me of the 23d Feb. which I submitted to him — No. 5 is a communication from Mr. Cammack reporting upon the 1st. melt of Silver made pursuant to your favor of the 12th Feb. and enclosing the accounts and other documents upon which the settlement with the Melter and Refiner was made at the close of the last year. No. 6 is another letter from Dr. Riddell upon the subject of the wastage.

Should you still be of opinion after taking these documents into consideration, that Dr. Riddell's account should be opened anew your instructions in that respect shall be complied with. I do not myself think that it would lead to any more satisfactory result. I have directed Mr. Cammack to debit the Melter & Refiner with the 30 oz of Silver [illegible] [illegible] the same to the

“ [illegible] of [illegible] of days. One statement for
“ [illegible] has not yet been handed to me by the Treas-
urer. I [illegible] send with it a memorandum of the late [illegible]
of our Melter
“ [illegible]

I am Sir,
very respectfully
yr. obedt. Servt.
J. M. Kennedy
Supt.

R. M. Patterson Esqre
Director of the Mint
of the U. S.
Phila.

P. S. We have been for three weeks, entirely out of dies for Silver Coin. Let me reiterate once more my request that you will keep us well supplied with them, of all denominations –

United States Branch Mint N. Orleans
Superintendent's Office March 15th 1841.

H. C. Cammack Esq.
Treasurer

Dear Sir.

In a note which I received this morning from Dr. Riddell, he states that in the melt which he made in your presence, pursuant to a request from the Director, he was unsuccessful owing to the furnace not having been sufficiently heated. To this circumstance he attributes the discrepancy in the assays of the pieces taken from the different ends of the bars, the coins of which the melt was composed, (which were of various standards) not having been properly mixed. Presuming that the object of Dr. Patterson is, not only to test the accuracy of the assays made at our Mint, but also to see whether the bars made by the Melter & Refiner here, are in themselves of one uniform standard, it strikes me, that it would not be doing that Officer justice, to have the matter tested by a melt, which he himself acknowledges to be *defective*. I have therefore been induced to accede to the wish expressed by Dr. Riddell, viz, that he be allowed to make another melt, in your presence, from which I desire you, as before, to send me a set of assay pieces, to be forwarded to Dr. Patterson, together with the certificate of the assays of the same melt, to be made by Dr. Hort. An additional motive by which I have been actuated, in my compliance with Dr. Riddell's request, is, that the melt which has already been made, was not as Dr. Patterson directs, strictly speaking, of "Mexican Dollars." He intended I think that it should be exclusively of that description of coins. To this I beg leave to call your attention.

I also desire you to have pieces cut from the bars now in the possession of the Melter & Refiner, from the ends opposite to those from which the assay pieces have already been taken, to be handed to the Assayer, to ascertain whether his assays of these will correspond with those which he has already made. If they should not, I think it proper that it should so appear, in order that by a different mode of proceeding, the Melter & Refiner should endeavor to guard against similar results hereafter.

I am very respectfully
Sir
Your Friend & Servant
(Signed) Jos. McKennedy.
Superintendent.

P.S. Should the Melter & Refiner not have at this time in his possession bars of a sufficient weight already assayed for the execution of the direction last above given, you can have the experiment tried, with the deposits you may now have on hand.

Jos. M. Kennedy Esqr
Supt. U.S. Br Mint

New Orleans 9th Mch 1841

Sir

I am much mortified as well as surprised to perceive that there has been an "habitual defect" in my aſsays of Gold. I have no hesitation in imputing it to the impurity of the Nitric Acid which I have used. I considered that the Acid sent from Philadelphia expreſsly for my department, was perfectly pure, & particularly as I supposed it to come directly from the Mint at Philadelphia, & to be of the same quality as that used in the aſsay department there; on that account I neglected to test it until I heard of the late result of the annual aſsay of Gold Coins, when to my surprise I found that it contained a considerable quantity of Muriatic Acid, quite sufficient to affect the Aſsays materially, and to account for any discrepancies that have existed. I have always adopted the same course in my Gold aſsays as is pursued in the Mint at Philadelphia. It is Chaudet's plan, & considered so perfect, as to render it unneceſsary to make any allowance for silver that might be supposed to remain after the action of the Acid; I have therefore never made any such allowance, nor have I used a test aſsay of pure Gold. I am now engaged in purifying my Nitric Acid, & shall not fail to avail myself of the test aſsay as suggested by Dr Patterson. You may rest aſsured that I shall spare no pains to rectify every existing error & to prevent its recurrence —

Respectfully Your obt Svt
Wm P. Hort Aſsayer

Melter and Refiner's Office
Branch Mint New Orleans 17th March 1841

J. M. Kennedy Esq Superintendent
Sir.

Your letter of the 15th inst accompanying certain extracts from a letter of Dr. Patterson the Director was duly received. I would respectfully offer the following remarks on the contained subject.

Grains & Sweeps

So far as it has been practicable to work up the grains estimated and introduced in my annual settlement, I have found no reason to doubt the general correctness of my account. Of late I have found it impracticable to keep the grains and sweeps of this year and last distinct; and as with five men I have not force enough in my department to keep one person habitually employed at recovering grains, I am at present uncertain as to the exact state of my account. You have doubtless informed the Director that both grains and sweeps were taken into the account in my annual settlement

Wastage of Gold

One circumstance which increased my gold wastage apparently, not mentioned to you in my letter of 11th Jany, because unknown at that time is this. In January 1840 I received a large amount of gold bullion, assayed with pure nitric acid; all of which I delivered in ingots above the true standard, on account of the presence of muriatic acid in the assayer's nitric acid which he supposed pure.

Silver used in alloying gold.

The principle and mode which I adopted in estimating this may be thus stated. From the whole amount of gold ingots delivered during the year, I deducted the whole amount of gold clippings received. Of the remainder I took one fortieth part as the amount of pure silver, of which I calculated the standard weight 300 ounces. This I accredited to my account before determining the amount of wastage required. Respecting this matter I could find no specific instructions.

Loss on clippings of Silver.

Oxide of copper produced in burning off, I have never intended to complain of:— but of salt, and dirt and charcoal, extraneous matter, derived from the foul salted grease used all last year by the coiner. In many instances the clippings were cleaned of grease in the humid way, and not being heated afterward the powers edges would contain ~~in~~ sometimes 1¾th thousandth of moisture. The clippings from small coins were delivered to me no cleaner than the rest, and all of them were much less clean than those I saw in Philadelphia. I am happy to say that there is in respect to the cleanness of clippings a material improvement so far this year. It should be borne in mind that the silver ingots which I deliver are thrown from the moulds red hot in a dry iron pan, where all extraneous matter burns off, and they are left clean. They are not dipped in water until delivered. The moulds are lubricated with clean fresh lard:

Based on careful experiments, my opinion is unshaken, that on the silver clippings of 1840, I lost between one & two thousandths.

Respectfully
Your obt Sert
J. L. Riddell
Melter & Refiner

Dr. The Treasurer of the Branch Mint New Orleans in account with the Melter & Refiner — Silver Bullion transferred during the year 1840. Cr

1840			Ounces	dec
January	31	To standard silver ingots delivered	37,105	45
February	29	" " "	67,762	70
March	31	" " "	88,316.	35
April	30	" " "	106,841	70
May	30	" " "	138,949	23
June	30	" " "	139,674	30
July	31	" " "	92,826	15
August	31	" " "	63,977	55
Septemb.	30	" " "	000,000.	00

1840			Ounces	dec
January	31	By silver bullion received	65,921	20
"		" " Clippings do	23,125	35
February	29	" " Bullion "	33,395	96
"		" " Clippings "	28,553	20
March	31	" " Bullion "	56,891	74
"		" " Clippings "	60,211	65
April	30	" " Bullion "	47,808	55
"		" " Clippings "	54,051	65
May	30	" " Bullion "	57,976	47
"		" " Clippings "	56,980	00
June	30	" " Bullion "	76,186	96
"		" " Clippings "	54,500	00
July	31	" " Bullion "	55,681	29
"		" " Clippings "	41,132	63
Aug.	31	" " Bullion "	17,052	51
"		" " Clippings "	29,400	00
October	31	" " Bullion "	55,768	35
"		" " Clippings "	34,440	00
Novemb.	30	" " Bullion "	102,373	19
"		" " Clippings "	56,408	90
Decemb.	31	" " Bullion "	65,890	35
"		" " Clippings "	63,737	30
			1,137,487	25

New Orleans 31st Dec. 1840

J. L. Riddell
Melter & Refiner

I have examined the various lots of Sweeps, grain, pots &c remaining on hand in the Melting & Refining department, & have assayed as far as was practicable, & entertain no doubt that the amount submitted & claimed by the Melter & Refiner in the annual settlement of his account is substantially correct.

New Orleans 4 Jany 1841

Wm. P. Hort
Assayer

Silver - 2395 67
Gold - 142 41.

Dr. The Treasurer of the Branch Mint New Orleans in account with the Melter & Refiner — Silver Bullion transferred during the year 1840. Cr.

1840			Ounces	dec
January	31	To standard silver ingots delivered	37,105	45
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May	30	" " "	138,949	23
June	30	" " "	139,674	30
July	31	" " "	92,826	15
August	31	" " "	63,977	55
Septemb.	30	" " "	000,000	00
October	31	" " "	58,126	45
Novemb.	30	" " "	191,754	25
Decemb.	31	" " "	112,157	80
		To amount of bullion delivered in annual settlement	37,695	30
		" Silver used in alloying gold	300	00
		" Wastage	2,000	00

1840			Ounces	dec
January	31	By silver bullion received	65,921	20
"	"	" Clippings do	23,125	35
February	29	" " Bullion "	33,395	96
"	"	" Clippings "	28,553	20
March	31	" " Bullion "	56,891	74
"	"	" Clippings "	60,211	65
April	30	" " Bullion "	47,808	55
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May	30	" " Bullion "	57,976	47
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Decemb.	31	" " Bullion "	65,890	35
"	"	" Clippings "	63,737	30
			1,137,487	25

New Orleans 31st Dec. 1840

J. L. Riddell
Melter & Refiner

Jos. M. Kennedy Esq.
Supt. Branch Mint

New Orleans 17 March 1841

Sir, According to your instructions I have re-aſsayed five bars of Silver, taking the aſsay piece from the reverse side of each bar, & the following is the result.

No 598 ... 897. By the 1st Aſsay 896.4 & returned in the report 896.
598 ... 897. —— Do —— Do —— 896.
601 ... 898. The same as before —— 898.
603 ... 896. By the 1st Aſsay 895.5 & returned —— 895.
605 ... 897.8 —— Do —— 897.3 and returned —— 897.

Between the different aſsays there will appear the following variations. On 598, six tenths; on 601 none; on 603, five tenths; and on 605 five tenths. You will perceive that all the fractions under a millieme were thrown off by me in making my report. This is done to counterbalance the loſs the Melter & Refiner must sustain on twice melting, which no doubt refines the Silver more or leſs. According to my own observation when in the Mint of Pha in 1837, the same thing was uniformly done on Silver aſsays, & any fraction under a one of gold was reduced to 1/2, & under a half, rejected. The late Melter & Refiner who was trained in the principal Mint told me that it was the practice there, & that if I did not make him an allowance of all fractions under 1 millieme on Silver, he could not stand the loſs sustained by twice melting. I have made these explanations, ~~[illegible]~~ believing them to be neceſsary & proper under existing circumstances. I cannot consider any of the above variations as important, as I believe from experience & observation, that in 99 cases out of 100, the very last portion of the Silver poured out from the crucible, will be found of a somewhat higher Standard than the rest of the melt, but I do not think that it can in ordinary cases sensibly affect the general maſs, so as to change the title even a fraction. But I, as well as the Melter & Refiner may be in part, or even sometimes, altogether the cause of these discrepancies; for although an Aſsay may be occasionally repeated by the Humid mode without the slightest perceptible variation, yet I apprehend that in a great majority of cases, from causes over which the Aſsayer has no controul, variations of tenths within the limits of a Millieme, must occur. These causes are particles of dust lodging in the balance whilst the aſsayer is in the act of weighing, or some moisture from the hand adhering to the Silver, or some slight dulneſs of the knife edge, or even the vibration which is so sensibly & so constantly felt in this building.

In conclusion, it may be proper to remark, that D. Riddell requested me in presence of the Treasurer to reaſsay the Coiner's Silver Bullion melted in the Coiner's department, & to take the aſsay piece from the reverse side as in the other instances. I did so & found a difference of One Millieme, the former ~~title~~ title being 840 & the latter 841, which goes far to sustain the view I have taken of the Subject.

Very respectfully
Yours Ob. Sert.

Wm. P. Hort Aſsayer

P. S. I neglected to mention that I have been informed by men of Science who have visited the principal Mints in Europe, that even greater deductions are made by Aſsayers in Silver Bullion than those to which I have alluded, & that the practice is universal in all the Mints of Europe & Mexico.

H

Delivered to the Treasurer of the B. Mint, New Orleans
in annual settlement Dec 31st 1840. Gold Bullion.

Description	Gross wt	Fineness Grs.	Stand wt.
1 bar No 83	45.82	842.	42.867 —
1 " " 81	55.82	891	55.261 —
1 " " 84	17.04	890	16.850 —
1 " " 79	14.17	894	14.075 —
1 " " 82	17.90	887	17.641 —
1 " " 80	24.25	958	25.812
1 " " 13	172.75	986	189.257
2 " " 14	100.00	663	73.666
1 " " 12	85.58	757	71.982
Sundry bars 15	658.25	898	656.787 —
1 Ring 18	8.76		8.594 —
Toppings	63.00	900	63.000 —
1 bar No. 16.	30.13	882.5	29.760
Mixed Bullion	1193.50		
Sundry bars	5484.90	41	54.370 —
31 bars & Rings		4	24.377
2 bars No. 313.	549.10		11.592
2 bars No 168	546.85		1.822
2 bars No 94 2nd melt	564.40		2.206 ~~2.000~~
1 bar No 94 1st m	298.70		1.330 ~~1.200~~
1 " No. 44 of 148	352.00		2.000
1 " 42 "	1007.30		5.596
			1368.845
In grains &c			14.241 —
Wastage			63.646
			1446.732

1368.845
14.241
1:383:086

Delivered to the Treasurer of the Branch Mint, New Orleans, in annual settlement, 31st Dec. 1840. Silver Bullion as follows:

Description	Gross wt	Fineness	Nett wt
		Mls	Ounces dec
Mexican dollars	10496.20	897	10461.21
12 bars Nos. 488 & 489			3232.30
1 bar No 383	89.60	877	87.35
388	178.90	878	174.82
477	170.50	893	169.17
478	109.00	888	107.54
486	260.50	860	248.92
496	98.45	892	97.57
498	182.60	876	177.73
Sundry bars & rings	5484.90	834	5082.67
Spanish coins	496.80	895	~~538.48~~ 494.03
3 bars No 339	{ 257.50 406.60 }	980	723.18
Sundry bars No 17.	740.50	992	816.19
2 bars No 439	538.50	984	588.76
Granulated silver No. 60 of 148.	389.80	979	424.01
1 bar No. 451.	174.40	906	175.56
Sundry rings &c	1193.50	786	1042.32
2 bars No 313	549.10	913	557.03
2 bars No 168	546.80	867	526.80
2 bars No 94 2nd m.	564.40	854 ~~936~~	535.55
1 bar No 94. 1st m.	298.70	936 ~~854~~	310.65
1 bar No 42. of 148	1007.30	958	1071.89
do 44 do	352.00	967	378.20
Clippings	5753.00	900	5753.00
4 pans unfluxed silver	1743.50	863	1671.82
Ring [illegible] &c	391.00	900	391.00
			35299.03
In gold alloy	300.00	900	300.00
In sweeps & grain			2396.27
Wastage			2000.00
			39995.30

No 2.

Memorandum of Gold Bullion weighed for the Mint

Description	Nos.	Allowance	Gross wt.		fineness	Standard		
	assay nos							
Gold Ingots	No 15	1 -	658	·25	898 ✓	606	787	
Bar	12		85	·58	757 ✓	71	982	
Bars	13		172	75	986 ✓	189	297	
Bars	14.		100	–	663 ✓	73	666	
Toppings & Clippings			63	–	900 ✓	63	-	
Bar	16		30	·13	889½ ✓	29	·760	5
Bar	Reg. no. 18		8	76	883 ✓	8	594	3 4
	81		55	·82	891 ✓	55	261	
	79		14	·12	894 ✓	14	·075	7
	80		24	·25	958 ✓	25	·812	3
	82		17	·90	887 ✓	17	·641	5
	83		45	·82	842 ✓	42	·867	
	84		17	·04	890 ✓	16	·850	
						1265	[illegible]	
		Gold mixed Bullion						
4 Rings 23·24·25·26·	assay no							
1 bar 28 · 1 Slab 27.	19.	12 --	1·193	·50	41. ✓	54	·370	
31 bars 1/22.	20	50 -	5·484	·90	4 ✓	24	·377	
2 Bars	313.		549	·10	19 ✓	11	592	
2 bars	168.		546	·85	✓	1	·822	
2 bars	2M. 94.		564	·40	✓	2	206	
1 bar	1M. 94.		298	·70	✓	1	·230	
1 bar Mx 42	148.		1·007	·30	✓	5	·596	
1 do Mx 44	148.		352	·00	✓	2	·000	
						1368	845	
In grains & Sweeps					✓	14	241	
						1383	·086	

N° 2.

Memorandum of Silver Bullion Weighed for the Melter & Refiner

Description	Nos	allowances	Gross wt.	Fineness	Standard
Mexican dollars			900 900 900 912 1041.60 895 900 900 900 900 900 513.60 10.362.20	897✓	10.327.65
Spanish Quarter Dollars		unmlt.	496.80	895✓	494.03
& filings		1.30	134.	897✓	133.56
	Registration Nos				
1 Bar.	496		98.45	892✓	97.57
1 .	495		182.60	876✓	177.73
1 .	481		174.40	906✓	175.56
1 .	477		170.50	893✓	169.17
1 .	475		109.00	888✓	107.54
1 .	380		178.90	878✓	174.52
1 .	353		89.65	877✓	87.35
1 .	456		250.50	860✓	248.92
12 Bars.	485 & 489		2952.00	2 Assys✓	3232.30
2 Bars.	2d M. 339		406.55	980 }	~~400.03~~
1 Bar.	1st M. 339		257.50	980 }✓	723.18
2 Bars & some pieces	Assay No 17		740.50	992✓	816.19
2 Bars	Reg. No 439		538.50	984✓	588.76
Granulated Silver, mark 850	Assy. 148		389.80	979✓	424.01
1. Copper Pan of unfluxed Silver 408.50 Add diff. of Pan. 1st assy. 3.50			412.00		
1. Copper Pan of same 521.50 Add diff. 2d assy 3.50			525.00		
1. Copper Pan of same 290.00 Add diff. 3d assy 2.50			292.50		
1. Copper Pan of same 525.00 Add diff. 4th assy 3.50			528.50		
Total Amount 1758.00		9.50	1748.50	860✓	1671.82
					19.649.86

over

	No.	Allowance	Gross Wt		Fineness	Standard	
						19.649	86
Eight Boxes of Clippings							
1st draught			798	00			
2d do			798	00			
3d do			798	00			
4th do			798	00			
5th do			798	00			
6th do			798	00			
7th do			798	00			
8th do			166	70			
Total Gross weight			5753	00	900 ✓	5753	~~47~~
1 King Po			391	00	900 ✓	391	~~47~~
31 Bars &c 1 to 22.	mix B.	50 ~~200~~	5484	90	834 ✓	5082	67
4 Kings 23.24.25.26		12	1193	50	786 ✓	1042	32
1 bar & slab } 2 bars —	313		549	10	913 ✓	557	03
2 bars.	168		546	85	867 ✓	526	80
2nd M. 1 bar	94	[illegible]	284	30	✓	535	55
2nd m. 1 bar	94		280	10	854 }	~~6.200~~	
1. m 1 bar	94		298	70	936 ✓	311	31
Mexn. no 42 1 bar	148		1.007	30	958 ✓	1071	89
44 1 bar	148	[illegible]	352	–	967 ✓	378	20
			[illegible]	[illegible]		35.299	63
	Ingramis		Sweeps		- - ✓	2.395	67
						37.695	30

(Confidential)

New Orleans December 29th 1841

Dear Sir,

Mr Kennedy called on me this morning, and said he had seen a letter from Washington to a gentleman in this city, stating that the President had determined to remove him from office, and that his successor was already named. He felt convinced from the source of the information, that the author could not be mistaken; and desired me to write to you, and enquire if you knew anything of it; And if you did not, to ask you if you could ascertain if such was the case; Not that he wishes you to take any measures to prevent the course which the President thinks proper to pursue; But, that he wishes to be spared the mortification of being removed. He says if you think he is to be removed, and will communicate it to me, he will resign immediately. I advised him to write to you, for your views confidentially, but he replied that he felt extremely delicate about it, and would take it as an especial favour if I would write for him. I told him that I could not think the President would remove him from office, without giving him sufficient notice of his intention to allow him to resign.—

Mrs Tyler has entirely recovered of the complaints which gave us so much uneasiness— She wishes to be remembered— to Mrs Patterson.

Yours Sincerely

Philo B. Tyler

Mint of the U. States,
Dec. 25, 1841.

Sir,

Your letter of the 10th, containing the report of your operations for November, was received on the 21st inst.

If the settlement with Dr. Riddell be made according to the terms laid down in my letter of the 16th ult., and be a bonâ fide, and not a mere paper settlement, I shall not complain of your last postponement of it, so as to make it include the whole of the present year. I beg you, however, to be cautious as to extraordinary expenditures at your institution. I have heard that Dr. Riddell has erected a furnace for the reduction of his sweeps at great cost, and that he is using rosin as a fuel. - Such rumors are probably unfounded. As you are responsible, yourself, for all expenditures at the Mint, and especially for such as are of an unusual kind, I cannot suppose that you have authorised an uncertain project, - of an expensive character, - at least without consulting me.

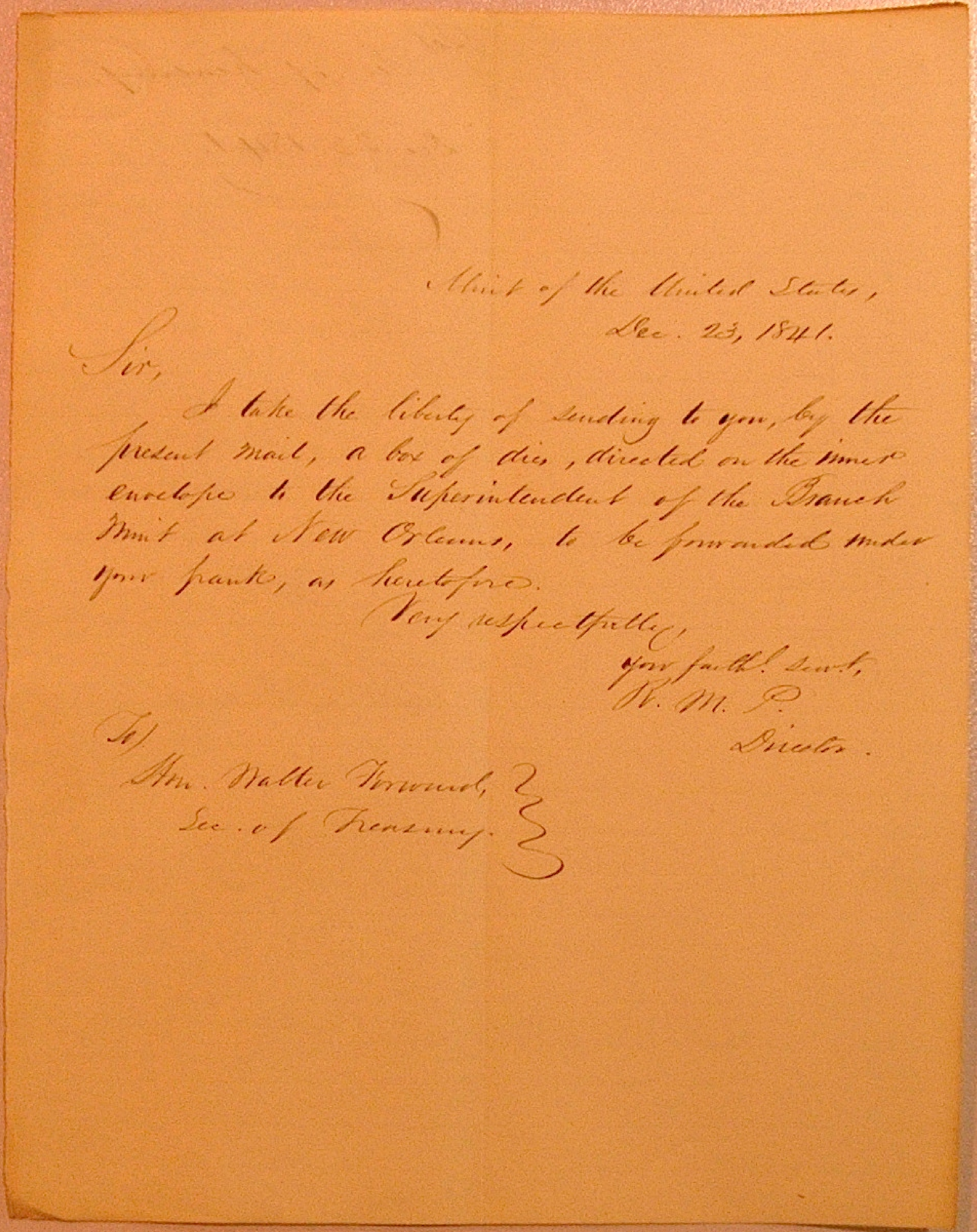
Let me beg you to give me, at as early a day as possible after the close of the year, the information necessary for my annual report, as to what regards your Mint.

Let me also call your attention to the necessity of forwarding the coins reserved at your Mint for the Annual Assay. They should be sent in several successive parcels, (so as not to be too heavy,) to the Sec. of Treasury, with a request that he will forward them to me, under his frank.

You will also send a report of the destruction of the dies of 1841.

Very respectfully,
your faithful servant,
R. M. Patterson,
Director.

To/
Jos. M. Kennedy, Esq.
Supt. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.



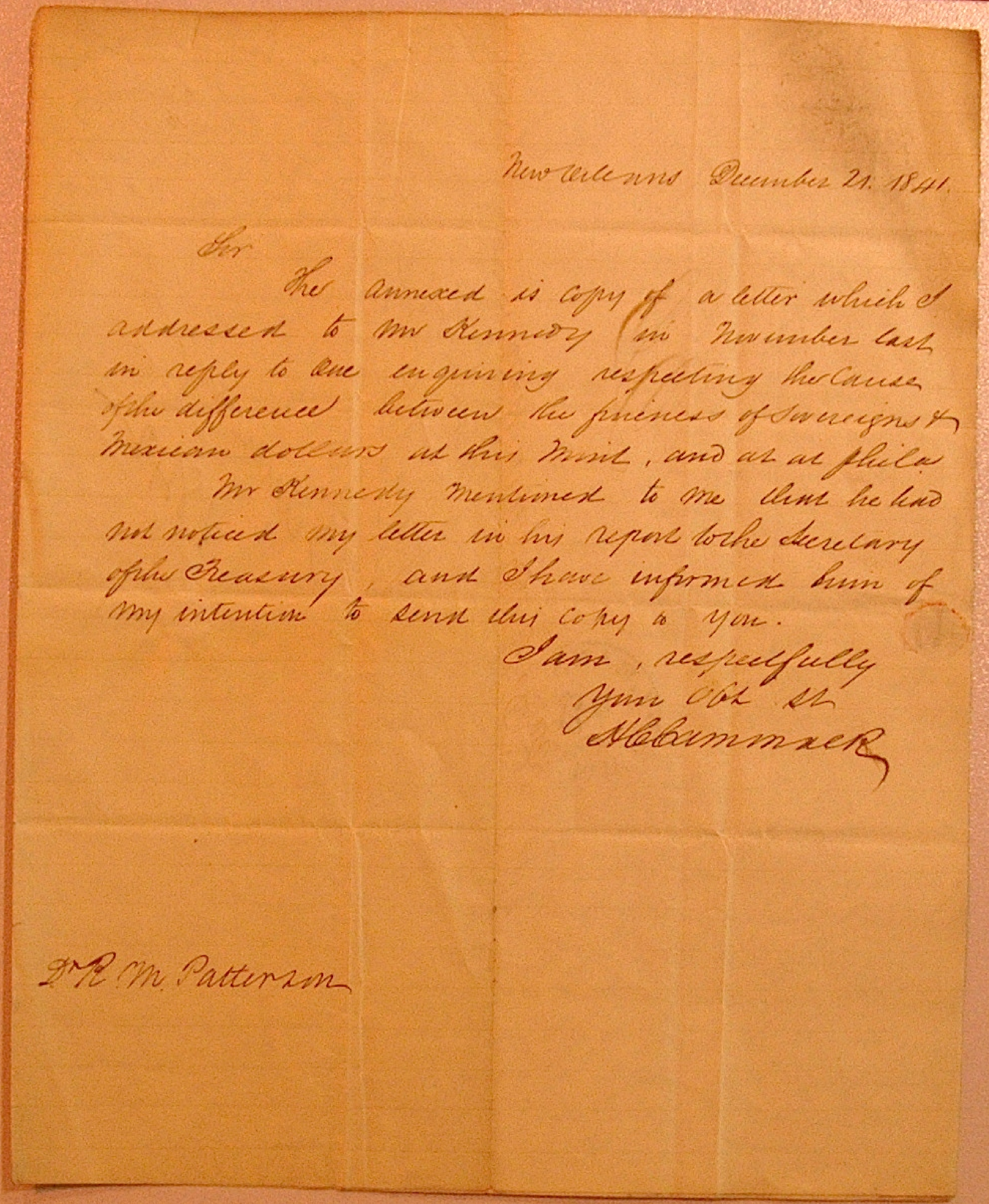
Mint of the United States,
Dec. 23, 1841.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending to you, by the present mail, a box of dies, directed on the inner envelope to the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, to be forwarded under your frank, as heretofore.

Very respectfully,
your faithl. Servt,
R. M. P.
Director.

To/
Hon. Walter Forward,
Sec. of Treasury.



New Orleans December 21. 1841.

Sir

The annexed is copy of a letter which I addressed to Mr Kennedy in November last in reply to one enquiring respecting the cause of the difference between the fineness of Sovereigns & Mexican dollars at this Mint, and at at Phila

Mr Kennedy mentioned to me that he had not noticed my letter in his report to the Secretary of the Treasury, and I have informed him of my intention to send this copy to you.

I am, respectfully
Your Obt St
A Cammack

Dr R. M. Patterson

From H. C. Cammack Esq.
Treas. N. O. B. Mint.
New Orleans.
Dec. 21. 1841.
Rec'd Jan. 4. 1842.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

January
1842

NEW ORLEANS
DEC
23

Branch Mint, New Orleans.
Treasurer's Office 20th Novr. 1841.

Sir

In reply to your letter of the 16th inst., I have to inform you that it is the practice of this Office on the receipt of Gold Coins deposited for Coinage to enter on the books the kind of Coins deposited, & if a deposite consist of more denominations than one, it is entered mixed Coins, or the various kinds are enumerated.

Sovereigns & other gold coins having been reported so much lower in fineness at this Mint, than at Philadelphia, I was induced, in the month of January last, to cut some coins into two pieces, one of which, you will recollect, was assayed here & the other in the Philadelphia Mint, and a difference of 2.m found in the assays. This led to a discovery that the acid used here was defective. Since that time there have been but three deposites of Sovereigns made here, which have been reported 915 fine being only 5 less than the title at which, I understand, they are received in the Mother Mint. I am now preparing some gold Coins for melting & will report the result.

I have always had great anxiety on the Subject of attaining the title of Mexican Dollars at this Mint, & in June last I discovered that the slips cut from the bottom, & from the tops of the same bars, after melting for assay, differed materially in fineness. This induced me to make a communication on the subject to the Director of the Mint at Philadelphia, copy of which, together with the reply thereto, are enclosed herewith. This irregularity was supposed to be caused by the defect in the Flues of the Melting Department, and since the new ones have been built the titles of Mexican dollars have been reported higher than formerly. Forty four deposites of Mexican Dollars, have been made during this month,

2 of which are reported	....			900 fine
7. reported ...	898 ~	16	at	897 "
7. "	896 ~	4	"	895 "
4. "	894. &	3	"	893 "

The two last were small deposites and two of them from a Jew, and perhaps contained Counterfeits of which there are many in Circulation, and they are sometimes found in deposites made by the public, but, being easily detected by those experienced in Counting Specie, I can not believe that there have been many, or any of the deposites from Banks, or from my SubTreasury, with one exception, that contained Counterfiets.

We usually call all dollars "Mexican" when that Coinage preaminates in deposites, tho' there be many South American dollars with them.

I am, Very Respectfully,
Your Faithful Servant.
A.C. Cammack

To Joseph M. Kennedy Esq:
Superintendent.

Mint of the U. States,
Dec. 18. 1841.

Sir,

I send you herewith a bill of lading of sundry articles procured for your Mint by Mr. Lyfer, and shipped by us on the 1st inst.

I send also, by the present mail, to the Sec. of Treasury, to be forwarded to you under his frank, a box containing head dies of the ½ dollar, ¼ dollar, dime, ½ dime, and ½ eagle, — one of each, — for the year 1842. A further supply will be sent soon. In looking at the list of dies sent to you in 1841, I find that you have acknowledged the receipt of all except 2 prs. dime & 1 tail ½ dollar die.

I have this morning received from Washington a remittance of $500, sent in compliance with your request, which I have placed to the credit of your Treasurer, to meet expenses of your Mint.

over

The wife of one of your workmen named Hooper, while here, contracted a bill at a store of $8.55, which she left unpaid. One of our men, — Martin Summers, — who had recommended her to the ~~Merchant~~ Store, was sued for the amount, which he was obliged to pay, with $1.56 costs, making together $10.11. Mr. Summers is now sick, and I cannot give the particulars, but they are known to Mr. Hooper, who has been written to both by Summers and the Store-keeper. The case is a hard one upon poor Summers. Will you so far interfere, as to see that justice be done by Hooper. If the story, as told by Summers, be true, — and he is a very respectable man, — Hooper must either repay him, or I think you will ~~not~~ judge him not possessed of that honesty of feeling which should be required of every man retained in the Mint. — Mr. Tyler was spoken to on this subject, while he was here, ~~but still no have no remittance from Mr. Hooper~~ and he represented Hooper as able to pay, & doubtless would if he could remit the amt. safely. Perhaps he had better get Mr. Cammack to give him a draft on me in favor of Summers. —

Very respy,
your ob. servt.
R. M. P.
per G. F. D.
ch. c.

To/ Jos. M. Kennedy Esq.,
Supt. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

P.S. — The Director was called away before the above was ready for signature. G.F.D.

Treasury Department
Decemb. 15th 1841

Sir,

Agreeably to the request contained in a letter of the 3d inst received this day from J. M. Kennedy Esq Superintendt of the U. S. Branch Mint at New Orleans, a Warrant has this day issued in your favor as Director of the Mint for the sum of $500 for the purpose of placing you in funds on account of certain expenditures for that Branch of the Mint.

Very Respectfully Sir,
I remain Your Obt Svt
W Forward
Secretary of the Treasury

R. M. Patterson Esq.
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

United States Branch Mint New Orleans
Coiners office December 10th 1841

Dear Sir

We have now been at home eleven days. The river was very low and we were twenty one days on our journey. but we escaped being snagged or blown up and arrived in good health, for which we feel very thankful. Our mint commenced operation on the 1st of November, but no ingots were delivered to the coiner untill the 18th on account of the Melter and Refiner being engaged in recovering silver from sweep. So that the amount of coinage for last month was necessarily very small, but I am told by the Treasurer that there are now some $70.00 deposited for small coins, and several Hundred Thousand dollars waiting in the vaults of our banks, for the completion of our half dollar press, which will be in about ten days. At present my department is doing very little; but if I may judge from the appearance of the new furnaces, and other preparations made in the Melting department, I may expect in future a full supply of business — I took with me to Philadelphia a small portion of my sweep, with a view of ascertaining what to do with it, but since my return, Dr Riddell informs me that he has a new mode of recovering silver from sweep, by which a great saving is effected. He says he will receive them at their actual value. He has lately constructed in his department a very large and apparently effectual furnace expressly for melting down sweep, with a flue 70 feet high and 20 inches square, in which he uses rosin for fuel — I do not know if it will be right for me to transfer my sweep to him on the terms he proposes, but should think it perfectly fair, considering that the whole expense of working is incurred by the mint. I have told [illegible] Kennedy thus I would ask your advice, which I beg you will give

I hope the memorandum for small dies which I left with Mr Dunning will be furnished soon. and from the first of January 1842 we shall probably require three pair of dime and 2 pair of half dime dies per month. It gives me pleasure to notice, that for several months past our small dies have stamped considerably more pieces, than the number given me as the average stamped with the dies at your mint. and I hope when the presses are completed in the ½ dollar press, the large dies will show as good an account— I hope you will send us 6 pair of ½ dollar dies to begin the year with, as it is much easier to fit them, many at one time— I left some castings at your mint also the forgings for one pair of pointing rolls. with a request to have them sent to us by sea; but if they are not yet sent I beg you will have the kindness to let Mr Eckfelt or some one else. send them to Mr Morris to get the ports filled & their bottoms. and the pointing rolls roughed out.—

I am very anxious to know your view of my last low offer of the counting machine at $2,000 for the Philadelphia & New Orleans Mints.

I beg you will express my thanks to Mr Peal. for the many kindnesses which he tendered me when at your mint. I should have done so before I left. but in my haste did not see him— Please remember me to Dr McClintock and such others of my new acquaintance in your mint. as are pleased to enquire after me

Mrs Tyler wishes to be remembered to you. her health is better than it has been for one year past.

Sincerely your Faithful Servant—

Philos B. Tyler

To
Dr R. M. Patterson

Mint U.S.
Nov. 19th /61.

Sir,

Your letters of the ~~8th inst.~~ 3d & of the 8th inst., on the subject of your wastage account, have been duly received and carefully considered, and I have given my views of the matter in a communication to Mr. Kennedy, of the 16th inst., to which I beg to refer you.

~~Mess. Jones & Stone wrote to me, on the 2d inst., on with regard to your official bond, on which they are sureties, and urged my interference in bringing about a settlement of your~~

As Mess. Jones & Stone have expressed a desire to withdraw ~~their names~~ from your their suretiship, it is certainly right that you should give a new bond with new sureties; but it is against the practice of the government ever to cancel a bond that has been given. These gentlemen would, however, be virtually relieved, by a settlement of your account up to the time of ~~the~~ your giving the new bond.

R.M.P.
Dir.

To Dr. Jno. L. Riddell,
Melter & Refiner Br. Mint
New Orleans.

Mint U. S.

Nov. 19 / 41.

Gentlemen,

Your letter of the 2d inst., on the subject of ~~your bond for the~~ your suretiship on the official bond of Dr. Riddell, was duly received, and a communication ~~has been~~ was made by me to the Superintendent of the New Orleans Mint, which will, I hope, bring about, ~~without delay~~ the settlement which you desire, without further delay.

~~Yr. Servt.~~

R. M. P.
Dr

To/
James Jones, &
Warren Stone, Esqrs
New Orleans.

Mint U. S.
Nov. 17, 1841.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending, herewith by the present mail, a box of dies, directed on the inner envelope to the Supt. of New Orleans Br. Mint, to be forwarded, as heretofore, under your frank.

R. M. P.
Director.

To/
Hon. Walter Forward,
Sec. of Treasury.

Mint of the United States.
Philadelphia, Nov. 16th, 1841.

Sir,

I received yesterday your letter of the 4th inst., with the enclosures presenting the correspondence between yourself and the Treasurer and Melter & Refiner, on the subject of the sweeps still in the hands of the latter. I had received, on the 12th inst., ~~a~~ from Dr. Riddell, a copy of his letter to you of the 30th ult., with a simple note asking my decision of the question at issue, and saying:

"I will not here repeat &c. ——— improper or unreasonable." [Copy last paragraph of Dr. Riddell's letter of Nov. 3, rec. 12th.]

I regret exceedingly that Dr. Riddell has failed to follow my urgent advice that he would have his sweeps smelted, so as to ~~be~~ obtain its true market value, and thus be able to have a settlement of his account. I again, after fully considering the whole question, offer ~~give~~ the same advice. I do not consider myself authorized to give explicit instructions in the case, because the matter more properly belongs to you, and because if ~~he~~ Dr. Riddell can do better with his sweeps he ~~ought not~~ should be allowed to do so. But if he does not take the course recommended, he must take care that he do not produce another which will give rise to further delay, or to additional expense to the Mint.

On the question of time, the matter is urgent. I have received a letter, dated Nov. 24, from Messrs. Jones and Stone, ~~[illegible]~~ the sureties on Dr. Riddell's bond, stating ~~their intention~~ that they had informed him, some months since, that they intended to withdraw their ~~name~~ suretyship: that he requested them to wait about two weeks until his accounts with the government were settled: that they had awaited his movements a reasonable time, and having given him notice, that day, ~~[date Nov. 24]~~ of their letter to me, they now applied to me to order his accounts to be settled, his bonds cancelled, and the securities discharged.

Now the only courses for a prompt settlement of the account in question are two; first for Dr. Riddell to ~~settle~~ pay the balance necessary to bring his wastage within the ~~allowance~~ legal limit of allowance in specie, and take the sweep himself, to make ~~the~~ on it ~~his~~ the proposed experiments in which he has so much confidence; and, secondly, to send his sweep to Mr. Greenfield, the smelter at New York.

If the first be selected, the smelting, or solution, or whatever process is followed, must not be done at the cost of the Mint, as such a course would be contrary to practice, and to

the plain meaning of the law. It would be transferring the waste of metal, to a waste of so chemical materials, fuel, and labor, perhaps equally expensive to the government.

As to the ~~second~~ alternative, which I think Dr. Riddell ought to select, I ~~have~~ made inquiry of the house of Greenfield, by a letter of which I send you a copy ~~[illegible]~~, and I have this morning had a personal visit from the operative partner, Mr. Longman, in which he acceded to the terms I proposed, the charge for smelting being $7.50 ₽ cwt. — If you adopt my recommendation in this matter, you will please to ~~send~~ forward the sweep to T. H. Furness Esq., ~~[illegible]~~, N.Y., and ~~give~~ send me a copy of the bill of lading, that I may give him the necessary instructions. Send me also an ~~careful~~ account of the weight and estimated value of the sweep &c., with the Hort's certificate.

Mr. Longman agrees to take the old pots at $7 per barrel.

He thinks the sweep rejected by Drs. Hort & Riddell, as not worth smelting, must have been undervalued, unless, indeed, it be made up of broken bricks and the like. He does not think it possible to reduce ordinary Mint sweep so low, ~~without employing the high furnace &c.~~ by the usual ~~mechanical~~ processes employed at the Mints. This matter may be worth Dr. Riddell's attention.

I confess that I think the affair of Mr. Marwell's sweep is ~~matter~~ a subject of just complaint on the part of Dr. Riddell, as matters now stand with him. I had no idea, when this question was before presented to me, that Dr. Riddell would approach so near to ~~the~~ the legal limit of wastage, as to make ~~this oversight on his~~ ~~willingness to estimate the [illegible]~~ the mistake of estimating ~~Mr. Marwell's~~ this sweep at its full, instead of its net value, a matter of importance to him. I would be glad, now, if the error could be corrected, and will be gratified if either Mr. Cammack or yourself can suggest any course by which this could be done.

~~Then~~ I repeat an apprehension, which I expressed once before, that Dr. Riddell looks to wrong sources for the explanation of his excessive wastage. He now blames the wastage greatly upon the necessity which he was put under of raising the standard of his silver "by the well-known wasteful process of refining by nitre"; and he estimates the loss of refining 250,000 oz. in this way, at not less than 1700 oz.

Our experience is far from justifying this estimate. In September last, the following experiment was made by Dr. McClintock on Mexican dollars, &

1,937.12 std. oz. ~~original weight~~, toughened by nitre
1,934.39 " Product.
2.73 " Wastage.

The silver, in this experiment, was raised to 953 thts, and would therefore serve to raise a large amount of other base silver to standard. But supposing the whole 250,000 oz. refined by Dr. Riddell to have been subjected to this process, the loss should, according to the above experiment, have been but 352.3 oz.

In another experiment, the following result was obtained.

18,844.47 st. oz. toughened.
18,809.18 " Product.
35.29 " Wastage.

Here the loss was a little greater, — the first being 1.4 thts, the second nearly 1.9 thts.

It is certain that the refining by nitre is an expensive operation to the Mint, but it is not so wasteful, as to the silver, as Dr. Riddell supposes. Experiments recently made by us, with great care, show that the operation of the test gives rise to about the same wastage, but that it is less expensive.

R. M. P.,
D—

To/
Wm. M. Kennedy, Esq.
Supt. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

(over.)

P.S. In compliance with your request, I send enclosed the original documents which accompanied your letter. I have retained several of the statements which appeared to be copies.

We send by the present mail, through the Sec. of Treasury, 2 prs. dime & 1 pr. ½ dime dies.

(Copy)

~~[illegible]~~ ~~My~~ ~~letter~~ ~~[illegible]~~ for
(See my letter to Geo. Greenfield, Esq., New York, on file Nov. 12, 1841.)

1841. August	Stand^d Ounces &c	
	18,844.47.	Deposits toughened.
	18,809.18.	Product.
	35.29 Ounces. Hund^ths	Wastage.
1841. Sep^r.	Stand^d Ounces &c	
	1,937.12	Deposits toughened.
	1,934.39	Product.
	2.73 Ounces. Hund^ths	Wastage.

The Silver in the latter experiment was reported of the fineness of 953 parts in 1000. pure

Mint of the United States.
Nov. 12th, 1841.

Sir,

I have this morning received a letter from Dr. Riddell, ~~the~~ Melter & Refiner of the New Orleans Branch Mint, in which he states that his sweep, after running &c., has been assayed by Dr. Hort, the Assayer of the Mint, and its value ascertained with care, and duly certified.

I write to you for the purpose of knowing whether you will be willing to take this sweep upon the valuation thus determined, ~~at New Orleans~~, so that it may be sent directly to New York, — and, if so, at what deduction per Cent. for smelting. My proposition is that the sweep be sent to our agent, J. H. Furness, at New York, and that you pay the value, in specie or specie funds, on its being placed in your hands.

I have not the particulars as to this sweep, but it is poor, and the estimated gross value is $2913.80. ~~I infer its [illegible]~~ Although the weight of the sweep is not stated,

~~from the Statement that an allowance of $8 per Cent. to the Smelter would reduce the net value to $1024. — Your charge, however, being to us $7 that of $8 $7 to us, (which I presume you are not disposed to exceed,) the value to be paid by you will, exceed this amount I suppose, be about $1270.~~

~~The instructions which I shall give to the Superintendent at New Orleans, will depend upon the tenor of your answer.~~

I infer, from the estimated cost of smelting, that it is about 2 3/5 Cent.

The instructions which I shall send to New Orleans will depend upon the tenor of your answer.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful Servant,

To/

Geo. Greenfield, Esq.
Sweep-smelter,
New York.

Branch Mint New Orleans Nov. 8th. 1841

Sir — I enclose you a duplicate of the assayer's report on the quality of the Sweep, dated 30th Oct. and also a letter of his relative to the quantity. Accompanying them (on another page of this sheet) is a copy of my estimate of their nett value, as offered in the examination of my account.

	oz. dw
The nett value of the Sweep	1.654.07
Added to amount of silver bullion weighed and estimated by the Treasurer Nov. 4.	9.387.51
With ~~full~~ wastage for 1841 to Nov. 4.	1.600.60
And wastage made full for 1840, my wastage account having been reopened by our superintendent	275.90
Amounts to the balance of silver against me in the Treasurer's books	12.918.08

There is no difficulty in regard to the gold, a sufficiency of bullion having been tendered.

I have had the misfortune to disoblige and offend some of my sureties, by refusing to loan money. I wrote some days since to the Secretary of the Treasury, asking him to instruct the district attorney of this district to accept a new bond and cancel the old one. This I should have done sooner, but I wanted certain assay reports, and the assay department has been only a short time in operation.

On the 7th inst. I wrote to you, and sent a copy ~~[illegible]~~ of my letter to Mr. Kennedy dated 30th Oct.

Respectfully your obt. Servant
J. L. Riddell
Melter & Refiner

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director.

Estimate of Sweeps

As per assayers report, Oct. 30. 1841.

The whole amount of sweeps is a few lbs. short of 10 tons.

In the 10 tons there are Stand. oz of silver $\overset{oz.\ \ dw}{2.073.60}$

2 1/10 tons containing only $45. = 38.67

rejecting which 7 9/10 tons remain, containing 2.034.93

Now 7 9/10 tons = 158 quintals

Of this 30 quintals is Maxwell's sweep, given to me without deduction for smelting. 158 − 30 = 128 quintals. sweep which I have made

128 × $8 = $ 1024.= cost of smelting my sweep.

Now the value of the gold contained in the sweep is — — — — — $535.80

$1024 − $535.80 = $ 488.20 = $\overset{oz.\ \ dw}{419.54}$ =

deduction for smelting to be taken from the silver.

2.073.60

419.54

1.654.06. Stand. ounces, the nett value of the Sweeps.

Melter & Refiner's office

U.S. Branch Mint New Orleans

Oct. 30. 1841.

J. L. Riddell

Melter & Refiner

Mint U. S.
~~Oct~~ Nov. 4th, 1841.

Sir,

I have this day received your letter of the 23d ult. I am glad to learn from it that you consider it safe to return to New Orleans, as Mr. Tyler has set out, for this purpose, with some of his party unacclimated.

The draft of which you speak, in favor of Dr. Hert, has been since presented and paid.

Your funds left in my hands are entirely exhausted, and you will see by the annexed statement of Mr. Dunning, that we are in immediate need of an additional deposite. ~~I beg you, therefore, to attend to this matter.~~ Perhaps the best method of effecting this object, would be for the Superintendent, to ask the Secretary of the Treasury for a warrant in my favor, — explaining the circumstances under which it is asked.

The ~~lt~~ letter from the ~~order of the Secretary~~ of the Treasury Department ~~of which~~ respecting deposites for coinage, with regard to which you ask for information, is as great a mystery to me as to yourself. — There is no law or order setting a limit to the time allowed for coinage.

Very respectfully
Your faithful Servant
R. M. P.

T/
H. C. Cammack, Esq.,
Treasurer of Br. Mint
New Orleans.

Dr. Treasurer of New Orleans Br. Mint in acct. with R. M. Patterson, Cr.

1841.	$	cts	1841.	$	cts
Oct. 4. To amt. pd. H. L. Lifman	4	00	Oct. 1, By Balance per acct. rend.	529	86
" " " " " ~~[illegible]~~ Geo. Tyler,	12	00			
" 28, " " " Mr. S. M. Moore	200	00	Nov. 4, By Balance	10	45
Nov. 1, " " " Geo. Eckfeldt	10	00			
" " " " Lucius S. Tyler	36	00			
2, T. J. Dyre	88	81			
3, Wm. Smith, on act.,	164	–			
4, Marshall & Brock	25	50			
	540	31		540	31
Nov. 4, To Bal. per contra	10	45			
Bills payable:					
Abm. Miller	140	45			
Wm. Smith, balance	100	–			
Others not presented say $	249 ~~25~~	10 90			
Sum needed	500	90			

Account of Bullion weighed for the Melter & Refiner & R. on 4 November 1841 & left in his possession by order of the Superintendent, under date of 3 November.

Gold

			fineness	
No 25.		53·80.	809.	53·20
26	} mixed Bullion	734 -	34.	27·72
27		75 -	31.	2·58
28		6·10	176·	1·19
29		58·80	845	55·20
30·		40·90	900	40·90
31·		38·10	912·5	38·671
	Clippins.		900	64·60
	Foreign Coins		900	2.
				286·061

Silver

No 26.	9 bars	} mixed.	734.	740	603·51
27.	1 bar		76.	723	61·05
32.	10 bars		2450·90	750	2·042·41
33·	3	"	637·25	757	535·99
34	2	"	566·05	978	549·90
35·	4	"	1080·80	756	907·70
36·	1	"	463·40	565	290·91
37·38·39.	3	"	1721·95	890	1702·81
40 ·	1	"	134·20	810	120·78
41·	1	"	206·90	867	199·31
		Mexican dollars	578·	896	575·43
		Clippings	600	900	600·

Mexican dollars exchanged by the
M&R. & given in lieu of the American
Coins mentioned in his account, 1175·25

gross at 896 1·169·88

9·359·68

Branch Mint, N. Orleans
Treasurer's office 4 Novr 1841

H C Cammack
Tr.

U. S. Branch Mint N. Orleans
November 4. 1841.

Sir,

Dr. Riddell declines settling his account according to my understanding of your letter of the 21 Ult. last, which I hope has been correct. He now insists upon keeping his Sweeps here and working it himself. A perusal of my correspondence on the subject with the Treasurer and the Melter and Refiner himself, and of the other documents in relation thereto, all of which are enclosed, will place the matter completely before you.

Allow me to ask of you the favor, to return, when you will no longer have any use for them, the originals herewith transmitted, as well as the others that I have heretofore had occasion to send you. I have done so only when time has been wanting to make the copies.

I am very respectfully
Yr. obedt. Servant
J. M. Kennedy

R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint of
the U. S. — Phila.

P.S. I acknowledge receipt of 2 pr. of ½ dollar dies. We commenced taking deposites on the 1st instant, & expect to be in full operation by Monday next.

Branch Mint New Orleans Nov. 3. 1841

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director

Sir — I deem it proper without further postponement to lay my position before you. With this view I inclose you a copy of my letter of the 30th ult. to our superintendant. I am not yet advised of the course he intends pursuing relative to the main subject therein contained. I doubt not however he will follow what he supposes to be the strict path of duty, ~~you~~ having special reference to your instructions. There you have power to issue or modify as circumstances require. To you therefore do we usually look for the ultimate decision of all questions of importance at issue.

I will not here repeat a word of the letter referred to, but will remark to you in addition, that in attempting to screen myself from threatening loss by undertaking to extract more than the *nett* value so called, or *market* value of the sweep therefrom, myself, I am resolved to submit to the personal loss alluded to, and sell the sweep as you have recommended rather than to keep the mint deprived of the said value in the form of available bullion, for any length of time which might be deemed improper or *unreasonable*.

Respectfully Your obt Servt,
J. L. Riddell
Melter & Refiner

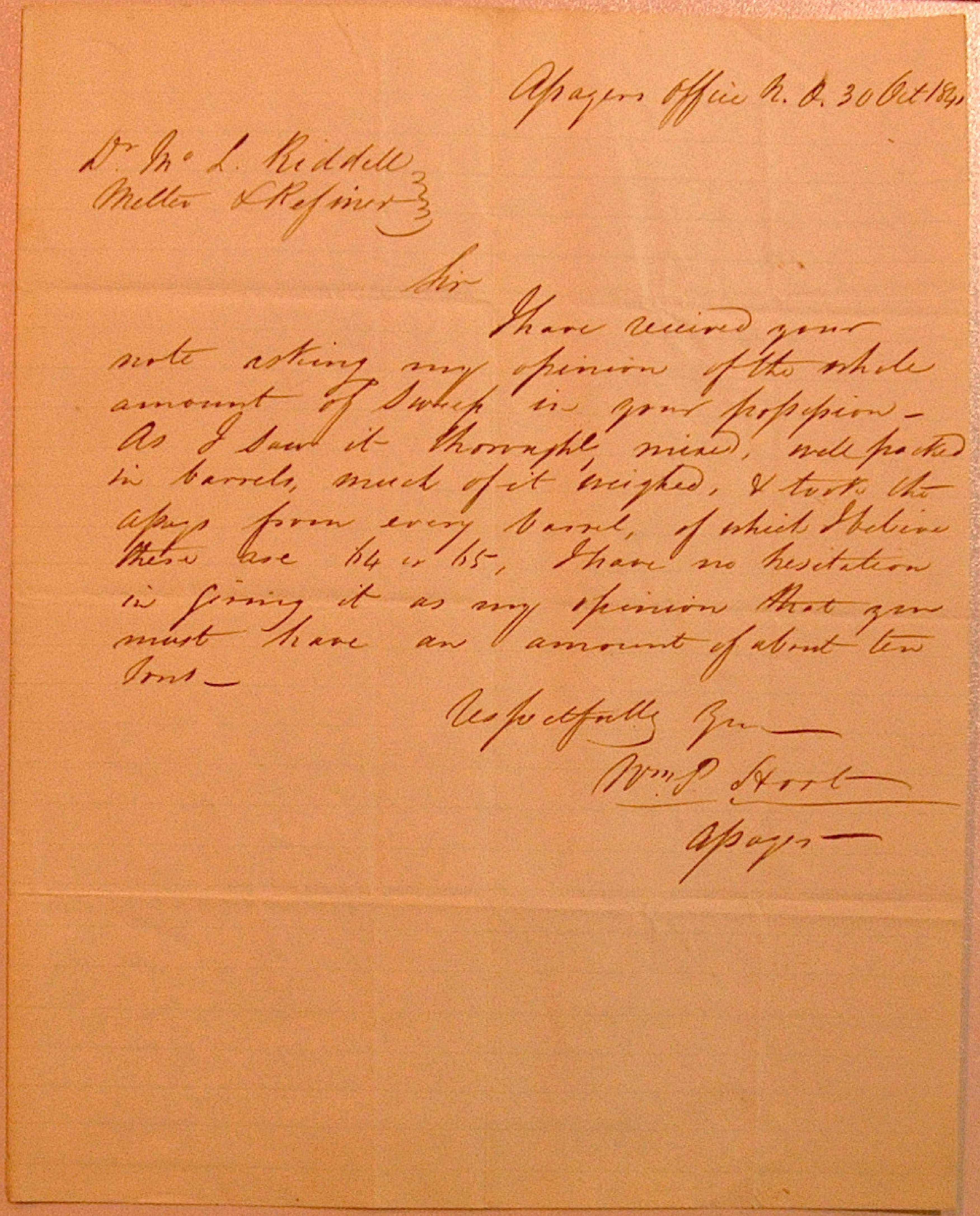
New Orleans Novemb. 2d 1841.

Sir,

Dr J. L. Riddell the melter & refiner of the U. S. Branch Mint in this City has our names in his bonds for the amount of $10.000. He was informed by us some months since that we intended to withdraw, and were requested by him to wait about two weeks until his accounts with the government were settled. Not wishing by this transaction to inflict any personal annoyance upon Dr Riddell we have awaited his movements a reasonable time, & having given him due notice this day of this letter & its contents we will be greatly obliged to you to order that Dr Riddell's accounts be settled, his bonds cancelled & the securities discharged as soon as it may be convenient.

We remain Sir
with great consideration
your obdt Servants
James Jones.
Warren Stone

Dr R. M. Patterson
U. S. Mint.



Aſsayers Office N. O. 30 Oct 184

Dr Jno L. Riddell
Melter & Refiner

Sir

I have received your note asking my opinion of the whole amount of Sweep in your poſseſsion — As I saw it thoroughly mixed, well packed in barrels, much of it weighed, & took the aſsays from every barrel, of which I believe there are 64 or 65, I have no hesitation in giving it as my opinion that you must have an amount of about ten Tons —

Respectfully Yrs —

Wm P. Hort

Aſsayer —

Duplicate Report of the Sweep.

Branch Mint of the U.S. at New Orleans
Assayer's Office 30 Oct: 1841

I certify that after seeing the whole amount of Sweep in the possession of the Melter & Refiner most carefully mixed, & samples most fairly taken, I have assayed the same, & find the following to be the result, confirmed by various experiments.

---

5 Oz of Sweep yield 14 grains of fine Silver—
Which is equal to 186.63 Oz fine Silver p Ton.
or 207.36 Oz Stand: Silver p Ton worth $241.30

---

14 grains of fine Silver as above contain ~~Ac~~ 12 p of fine Gold— then 186.63 Oz fine Silver, the product of One Ton of Sweep, will give 2.592 Oz fine Gold, or 2.880 Oz Stand: Gold worth $53.58 p Ton

---

But of the whole amount of Sweep, I find thirteen barrels, marked P, H & I containing about 4000 lbs to be already so thoroughly worked & so poor, as to be no longer available, & they should be altogether rejected in the settlement of the Sweep. After repeated experiments the whole amount of Silver remaining in said Sweep, does not exceed from $40 to $45, which would not bear the expence of working further here or any where else.

Wm. P. Hort
Assayer

(Copy)

Melter & Refiner's office
Branch Mint New Orleans Oct 30.
1841.

J. M. Kennedy Esq.
Superintendant
Sir.

Having at last received the Assayer's report on my sweeps, I hasten to redeem the pledge contained in my note of the 21st Oct. to reply more at length to your letter of the same date.

This morning I apprised the Treasurer that I was ready to make the settlement of my bullion accounts at any hour which might suit his convenience. I shall on monday morning leave with him statements of the silver and gold bullion offered in settlement. By inspecting them with the accompanying estimates, you will perceive that the gross value of the sweep is $2903.80, as deduced from careful mixing, weighing and repeated assaying (Vide assayer's report.) The allowance of $8. per quintal made by the Philadelphia mint to the New York Smelter, would amount on the sweep I have made to $1024. This sum deducted from the gross value would leave the nett value of the sweep to be

1.654 $\frac{7}{100}$ ounces of Standard silver; which amount I have offered to introduce after the manner of annual settlements, as provided for by ~~law~~ our instructions, and customary in Philadelphia Reckoning the sweeps at their nett value there is a deficiency in my silver account, over or above the limits of wastage allowed by law, of 247 $\frac{7}{100}$ Standard ounces, to meet which I have prepared myself to advance American silver coins

About the last of August and first of September, I made assays of the sweep and estimated as closely as practicable the amount of bullion in my possession. I then became convinced that by deducting $8. per quintal from the large amount of sweep I had, to pay for smelting, it would leave me as I then supposed 500 or 600 ounces of silver deficient. I found also that I had already worked much of the sweep far too poor to pay for smelting. I should have formally reported these matters to you at the time, [you will remember I have frequently communicated the same to you in private conversation] but I wished first to be confirmed or undeceived by the more careful assays made by the assayer, whose operations, as well as mine, have been until a week since,

wholly stopped on account of the building of chimneys. However, to save myself from impending loss, I spared no pains as you may be aware, in prosecuting experiments and preparing myself to extract more metal from the sweep than what the New York smelters would allow. I now feel a confidence bordering on moral certainty, that unless causes unforeseen should intervene, I will be able to produce more than the nett amount of bullion from said sweep, now barrelled up, marked and kept distinct; without putting the mint hereafter to any more than the ordinary expense, or impeding its operations; — say by the time of our usual annual settlement, the first of January. If shipped abroad, it is doubtful whether the nett bullion would be obtained from it much sooner.

In your letter of the 21st inst. you say "It is evident the director looks upon the entire sweep now on hand as sold to Greenfield and Longman." So far as I have been a party to the matter, the sale was merely under treaty, the negociation was pending, but not completed. I did intend to ship it to Philadelphia, until I found — first, that my account would be short by so doing; and second, that I could myself easily extract considerably more value from it than the New York Smelters would allow. Had it not been for the rebuilding of the chimneys and furnaces connected with them, which has for two months past required most of my attention, I might perhaps now have produced you the bullion from the sweeps. Of my ability to do so I can furnish proof by reference to the assayer's report. He finds that 4200 lb of the sweeps has been worked so low, that it contains only $45. or about $1. per quintal; whereas the New York Smelters require a payment of $8. per quintal for working.

You will here remark, that I offer an estimate of the Sweeps in settlement at their nett or market value, advancing the deficiency in the silver account myself, so that if the sweeps were actually sold, my account would be closed; entailing on me however, a material loss; and it is solely to avoid or meet this loss, that I have qualified and prepared myself to extract the precious metal therefrom. Had this condition of things occurred from carelessness, disobedience of orders, or even want of skill on my part, I should view the matter in a very different light from its present aspect. The real causes which led to an unusual and unavoidable

waste of silver in my department, may be recounted thus:—

1st. In January last the late Secretary of the Treasury, not aware that it would greatly embarrass the operations of the mint, withdrew our bullion fund, near $120.000. by drafts payable on demand.

2nd. Consequently, to enable the mint promptly to meet these requisitions, and at the same time keep its engagements with depositors, you gave me the following order, dated 26th January 1841. You require of me to use the utmost despatch in "the melting and "casting into ingots, (without any reservation "whatever of fine silver for raising the standard "of deposites) all the bullion," in my custody. With this order I complied to the best of my ability, making no reservation of fine silver. Thus, as my test furnace could not be used for want of an adequate flue, I became deprived of the proper means of raising low standard silver ~~deposits~~ up to our legal standard 900ths. Subsequent to this there was received of silver deposites below our standard

	Ounces &c
In January	31.769.68
March	55.801.04
April	34.396.60
May	74.185.92
June	97.742.35
July	351.42
August	272.89

Standard ounces
Total 293.850.78

During all this time there came in of silver above our standard only 4.209.$\frac{85}{100}$ standard ounces. This was sufficient perhaps to raise ~~the~~ our standard near 40000 a 50000 ounces of the low standard deposites; leaving a balance of near 250000 ounces, whose ~~standard ounces above~~ standard I was compelled to elevate by the well known wasteful process of refining by nitre. There was no alternative. Depositors could not wait to have their bullion refined by acid. There was no sufficient bullion fund to render us assistance. I must either run the risk of refining by nitre or stop the operations of the mint. I did the best I could to convert the bullion speedily into standard ingots. I anticipated a considerable loss — was repeatedly warned by the assayer that such would ensue, the silver being dissipated in fumes with the smoke of the furnace from the deflagration with nitre; — but I expected the wastage allowance would keep me safe from personal loss, supposing with some of the other officers of the mint, that the sweep would be worked at the expense of the mint; if sent abroad for that purpose, I was fully of this expectation until on the 7th of August you first showed me Dr.

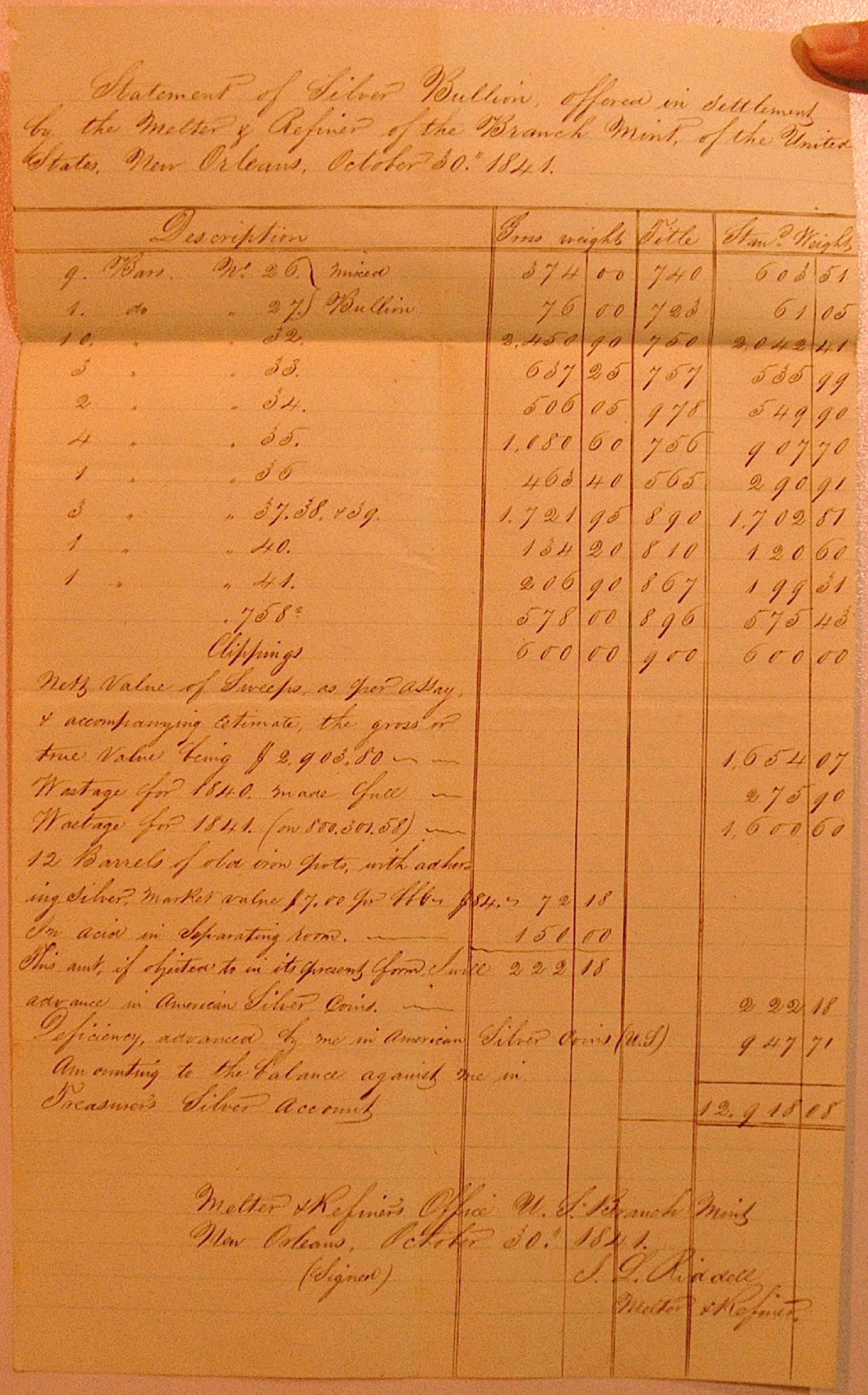
Patterson's letter of the 21st of July.

The loss consequent upon refining the 250000 ounces by nitre, reducing the skimmings, and repeatedly refining in the same manner the metal obtained, cannot I presume have been less than 1200 standard ounces. But for this loss I might produce bullion to settle my account independent of the sweep; the proceeds of it going to diminish the allowance for wastage.

Under all these circumstances I doubt not you will assent to the propriety of giving me a reasonable time to extract the bullion from the sweep in hand in my legal custody, which I have prepared myself promptly to do; and in the mean time that you will direct that the assayer's report on the value of the sweeps, and the estimate of the nett value based thereon, be acknowledged as is customary in the settlement directed. In April last you issued your warrant for transferring to my debit the sweeps of the late melter and refiner, 3000 lb. at their gross value $356.36. Had $8. per quintal been deducted, as in the said estimate of my sweep, the nett value would have been only $116.36. Yet you have wished me to sell said sweep, incurring con unconditional loss of $240. But now with all the above cited circumstances of loss before you, I am sure the marked injustice of it will be apparent. You have charged me $356.36 for what you have proposed to take out of my custody and credit me only $116.36.

In conclusion if you finally suppose it your official duty to persist in requiring the sweeps to be shipped immediately, I shall regret the necessity of the issue made up, but shall abide by the decisions of the higher authorities to which we are amenable.

Respectfully
Your Obedient
Servant
J. L. Riddell.
Melter & Refiner.



Statement of Silver Bullion, offered in settlement by the Melter & Refiner of the Branch Mint, of the United States, New Orleans, October 30th 1841.

Description	Gross weight		Title	Stand. Weight	
9. Bars. No. 26. mixed	374	00	740	603	51
1. do . 27. Bullion	76	00	723	61	05
10. . . 32.	2,450	90	750	2,042	41
3 . . 33.	637	25	757	535	99
2 . . 34.	506	05	978	549	90
4 . . 35.	1,080	60	756	907	70
1 . . 36	463	40	565	290	91
3 . . 37. 38. & 39.	1,721	95	890	1,702	81
1 . . 40.	134	20	810	120	60
1 . . 41.	206	90	867	199	31
. 758.	578	00	896	575	43
Clippings	600	00	900	600	00
Nett Value of Sweeps, as per Assay, & accompanying estimate, the gross or true Value being $2,903.80 —				1,654	07
Wastage for 1840. made full —				275	90
Wastage for 1841. (on 800.301.58) —				1,600	60
12 Barrels of old iron pots, with adhering Silver, market value $7.00 pr 100lb — $84.—	72	18			
In acid in Separating room. —	151	00			
This amt, if objected to in its present form, I will	222	18			
advance in American Silver Coins. —				222	18
Deficiency, advanced by me in American Silver Coins (U.S.)				947	71
Amounting to the balance against me in Treasurer's Silver Account				12,918	08

Melter & Refiner's Office U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans, October 30th 1841.

(Signed) J. L. Riddell
Melter & Refiner

Statement of Gold Bullion, offered in Settlement by the Melter & Refiner of the United States Branch Mint, at New Orleans. October 30th 1841.

Description	Gross Weight		Title	Standard Wt.	
No. 25.	53	80	809	48	36
26 } mixed Bullion	740	00	34	27	95
27 }	75	00	31	2	58
28	6	10	176	1	19
29	58	80	845	55	20
30	40	90	900	40	90
31	38	10	913½	38	671
Clippings	64	60	900	64	60
Grains & Filings (if rejected to be replaced by coins belonging to me)				2	000
Wastage	10.671	531		18	460
Amounting to the balance against me.				299	911

Melter & Refiner's Office
U. S. Branch Mint New Orleans.
Oct 30th 1841.

(Signed) J. L. Riddell
Melter & Refiner

Branch Mint of the United States
New Orleans, Assayer's Office
October 30th 1841.

I certify that after seeing the whole amount of sweep in the possession of the Melter & Refiner most carefully mixed, & samples most fairly taken, I have assayed the same & find the following to be the result confirmed by various experiments.

5 Oz: of sweep yeild 14 grains of fine Silver, which is equal to 186.63 oz: fine silver per Ton or 207.36 oz: Standard Silver per Ton worth $241.30 –

14 grains as above of fine Silver contain 12/2 In Gold then 186.63 oz: fine Silver, the product of One Ton of Sweep will give 2.592 oz fine Gold, or 2.880 oz: Standd. Gold, worth $53.58 per Ton of sweep.

But, of the whole amount of sweep, I find by secondary assays, Thirteen Barrels marked D.H & I. containing about 4000 lbs – to be already so thoroughly worked & so poor as to be no longer available, & they should be altogether rejected in the settlement of the sweep – after repeated experiments, the whole amount of Silver remaining in said sweep does not exceed from $40 to 45, which would not bear the expense of further working here, or anywhere else. –

(Signed) William T. Hort
Assayer.

C

Estimate of Sweeps.

As per Assayer's report October 30th 1841.

The whole amount of sweep is a few lbs. short of ten tons. In the ten tons there are —— 2,073.60 standard ounces of Silver.

Of this 2/10 (4200 lbs) contain only —— 36.67 standard oz: Silver, rejecting which 7 9/10 tons (158 quintals) containing —— 2,034.93℥ of standard Silver remains.

Of this 158 quintals, 30 quintals are Maxwell's sweeps given to me without deduction for Smelting, 158 − 30 = 128 quintals, the sweep I have made.

128.

$8. Cost per quintal for smelting.

$1024.~ Cost of smelting my sweeps.

Now the value of the Gold contained in the sweep is

$535.80

Deduction for Smelting to be taken from the Silver } $488.20 = 419.54℥ Standard.

2,073.60
419.54
Nett value of the sweeps 1,654.06℥ Stand^d. of Silver.

Melter & Refiner's Office
October 30th 1841.

(Signed) J. L. Riddell
Melter & Refiner

U. S. Branch Mint N. Orleans
October 27th 1841.

Sir,

Being uncertain as to the extent of the information required from me in your letter of the 6th instant, and at a loſs whether I am to communicate to you, in relation to the persons employ'd in this Branch Mint, such only as you do not already possess, I have concluded to make my statement as full, as that required by the resolution of which you have furnished me with a copy. It may be, that I have taken unnecessary pains, and gone into details which you have not contemplated: if so, it is because I prefer that you should say, I have entered into particulars that were useleſs, than that you should find the information you desire, incomplete –

I will begin by the Treasurer.

This Officer receives a Salary of $2000 per annum

The duties which he is required by law to perform, are, to receive and safely keep all monies which shall be for the use and support of the Mint – to keep all the current accounts of, and pay all monies due by, the Mint – to receive all bullion brought to the Mint for coinage — to keep all the bullion and coin in the Mint not legally placed in the hands of other Officers, and on warrants from the Superintendent to deliver all coin struck at the Mint to the persons to whom they shall be legally payable — to keep regular and faithful accounts of all the transactions of the Mint in bullion and coin, both with the Officers of the Mint and the depositors, and to present quarter yearly to the Treasury Department of the U. S. an account of the receipts and disbursements of the Mint, for the purpose of being adjusted and settled. He is further required from the report of the Assayer, and the weight of the bullion, to estimate the value of each deposite, and also the amount of the charges or deductions, if any (which charges are enumerated in the 18th Section of the act supplementary to the act entitled "An act establishing a Mint, and regulating the coin of the U. S.") of all which, he shall give a detailed memorandum to the depositor, together with a certificate, under his hand, of the net amount of the deposite — to transfer, from time to time to the Melter & Refiner parcels of bullion to be formed into ingots, and to keep a careful record of those transfers, noting the weight and character of the bullion, to receive from the Melter & Refiner the ingots thus prepared, if they prove to be within the limits allowed for the deviation from the [illegible]

keeping a careful record of each transfer — to keep an account with the Melter & Refiner of all the bullion placed in his hands, debiting him with the standard weight thereof, and of all the ingots delivered by him, crediting him also with their standard weight, and to settle his accounts with the said Melter & Refiner, at least once in every year —

The Treasurer is further required to deliver over from time to time to the Coiner, ingots for the purpose of coinage, to keep a careful record of these transfers, noting the weight and description of the ingots — to see that the coins delivered by that Officer are within the legal limits of the standard weight — to take, indiscriminately, in the presence of the Assayer, at every delivery of coins made by the Coiner, the number of pieces of each variety, prescribed by the Director, for the annual trial of coins, which he shall carefully label and deposite in a chest appropriated for the purpose, kept under the joint care of himself and the Assayer, and so secured, that neither can have access to its contents without the presence of the other — to keep a careful record of the amount of the clippings and other portions of bullion remaining after the process of coining, which shall be delivered to him by the Coiner, and in his account with that Officer, to debit him with the amount in weight of standard metal of all the bullion placed in his hands, and to credit him with the amount also by weight of all the coin, clippings and other bullion rec^d by him from said Coiner, whose accounts he shall also settle once at least in every year.

He has two clerks, with a salary of $1200 per annum each. To the business of the Office they devote the whole day — The Treasurer, speaking for himself in a communication to me, says: "The whole of my time is subject to the discharge of these duties, tho they require sometimes only a portion of it, according to the extent of the Operations of the Mint."

The law makes it the duty of the *Assayer* carefully to assay all metals used in coinage whenever such assays are required in the operations of the Mint, all bullion remaining from the operation of the Assay to be returned by him to the Treasurer, and also to make assays of coin whenever instructed to do so by the Superintendent — to report to the Treasurer the quality or standard of the bullion assayed by him, and to communicate to the Treasurer such information as will enable him to estimate the amount of the charges to be made to the depositor for the expenses of converting the bullion into standard metal, fit for coinage — His salary is $2000 per annum — Dr. Hort has no particular hours, holding himself ready, *if necessary* to attend to business at any time during the day. Hitherto

however, with few exceptions, he has been able to accomplish all that he has been called on to do, between 9 A.M. and 2 P.M. These are his own words. He adds: "Only one hand is employ'd in my department whose duty it is to remain in the department as diligently employed as circumstances may require during the appointed working hours in the Mint say from 7 A.M. to 4 P.M. As he stands more in the character of an Assistant to the Assayer than a mere Workman and must be possessed of some practical chemical knowledge and general ingenuity, and would be hard to replace, I have since 1838 allowed him $3 per day."

The *Melter* & *Refiner* is required by law to execute all the operations which are necessary in order to form ingots of standard silver or gold suitable for the Coiner, from the metals legally delivered to him for that purpose, to be transfer'd by him to the Treasurer, accompanied by the Assayer's certificate of their fineness. The salary of this Office is $2000 per annum — His department has five men, the foreman of the Melting room receiving $3.25 per day, the foreman of the Separating room $3.25, and three others $2.50 each. Their hours are from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Winter, and one hour later in Summer.

It is incumbent upon the *Coiner* to execute all the operations which are necessary in order to form coins conformable in all respects to the law, from the standard silver and gold ingots legally delivered to him for the purpose, which coin he is required from time to time, as they are prepared to deliver over to the Treasurer. He receives $2000 pr. annum and is allowed fourteen men to carry on his operations – They receive the following wages. The coiner's assistant $3.25 pr. day – The adjuster of coin and Foreman 3.84. – The foreman and pressman of coining room 3.25 – The two annealers one 3.25 the other 3.00 – The Engineer and Foreman of the Rolling Room 3.00 – Two workmen in Rolling Room, one 3.00, the other 2.00 – The three workmen in Drawing and Punching room, two of them 2.75, the other 2.50 – One Miller and bleacher 3.00 – One Fireman 2.25 – and One Machinist 3.25 –

The hours are the same as in the *Melting* Department –

The *Night Watch* consists of four men who are on duty from sunset to sunrise – The Captain gets $2.50 pr day and the other three $2.

The *porter* and *Door Keeper* each receive $2. pr day, as also a day labourer

whose duty it is to wheel wood and coal and keep the yard clean, and who also serves as a day watch. They are at their several posts from sunrise till sunset.

The duties of the *Superintendent* are not set forth in detail by the law. His title however sufficiently indicates the nature of his office – He has the control and management of the Mint, and the superintendence of the officers and persons employed therein. He must see that the business of the Institution is carried on, conformably, in all respects, to the legal provisions by which it is governed, and to the instructions ~~of~~ laid down by the Director of the Mint of the U. S, and that it be made to answer as completely as possible, the purposes of its creation – The time that he devotes to these duties must necessarily vary with the extent of the business to be transacted – The signing of the warrants, and an occasional visit to the different departments (each one of which has a head, an officer commissioned in the same manner as himself) to see that all is right, does not require any considerable time – The importance of the office lies in the responsibility which is attached to it, and in the *correspondence*. It is the province of the Superintendent to correspond with the Director upon all matters concerning the Mint, with the different Officers touching the business of their several Departments, sometimes with the Secy of the Treasury, and not unfrequently with persons unconnected with the Establishment, giving such information as they ask for in regard to it – As I am allowed no Clerk, and am compelled to copy my own letters, I find them by far the most arduous of the duties I have to perform – I have no fixed period of the day for going to the Mint, where you know that I do not reside, but have always been in it when my presence there has been required. The time which I generally devote to the business of the Institution is, I shd think from 3 to 4 hours a day, sometimes it is longer. The Salary of the Superintendent is $2500 per annum – So far from diminishing the number of persons employ'd in the Mint we would get along much better with the addition of two others in the Melting department. The wages of the men are not unreasonable, with every thing as high as it is in New Orleans and with regard to the salaries of the Officers and Clerks, it is my honest conviction, that mine is the only one which is not insufficient.

Now that my task is over, I feel satisfied that I have given you much more than was necessary to meet the enquiries contained in your letter of the 6th instant, and that the time I have spent in enumerating our duties, has been lost. I have err'd however on the safe side –

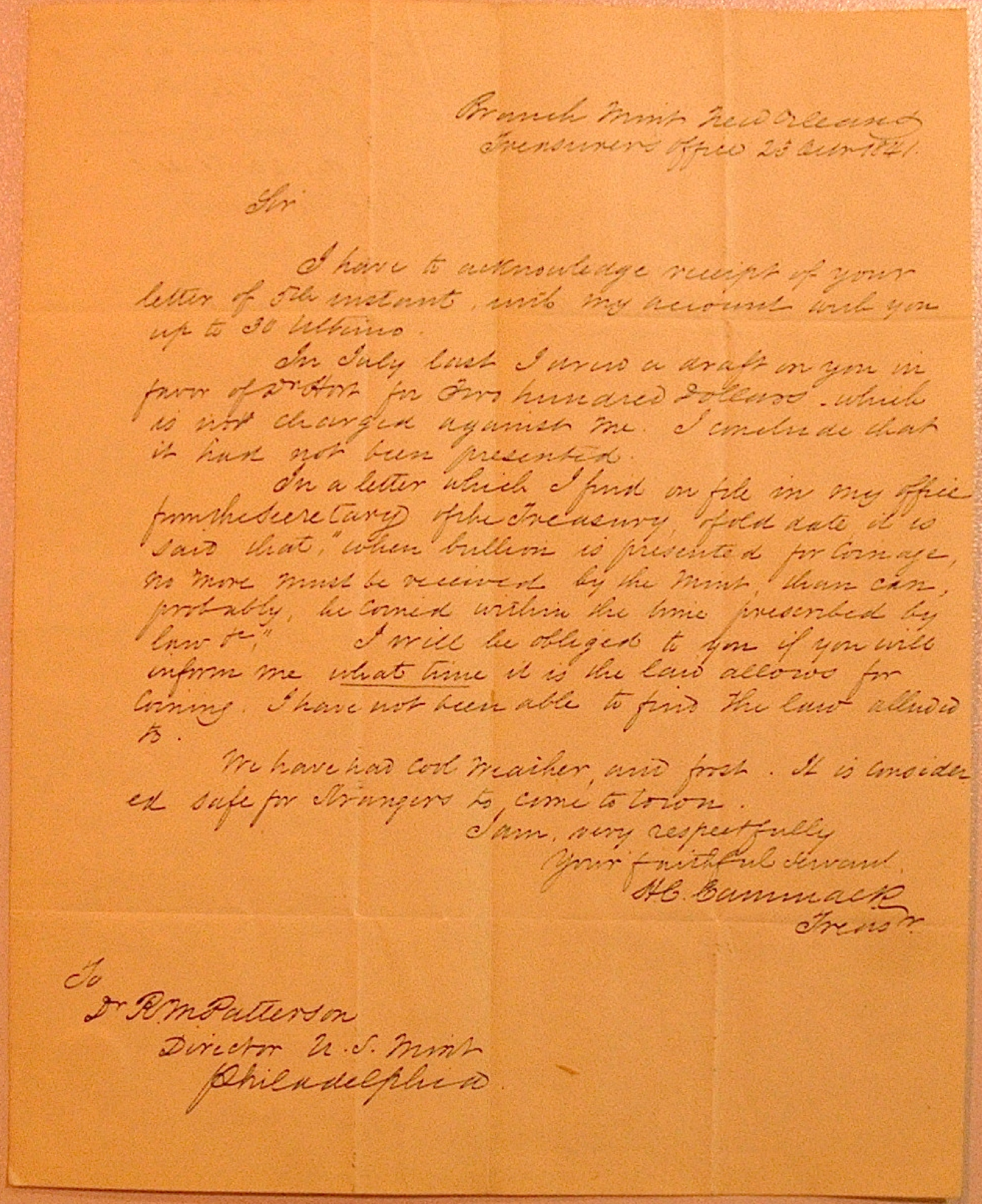
very respectfully

Y. obedt. Servt.

Jo. M. Kennedy

R. M. Patterson Esq
Director of the Mint
of the U. S.
Phila.

P. S. The second resolution cannot apply, I am sure to the cases of Ernst and McCarthy. They are the only two men that have been dismissed from the Mint since I came into it.



Branch Mint New Orleans
Treasurer's Office 23 Nov 1841.

Sir

I have to acknowledge receipt of your letter of 5th instant, with my account with you up to 30 ultimo.

In July last I drew a draft on you in favor of Dr Hart for Five hundred Dollars, which is not charged against me. I conclude that it has not been presented.

In a letter which I find on file in my office from the Secretary of the Treasury, of old date it is said that, "when bullion is presented for Coinage, no more must be received by the Mint, than can, probably, be Coined within the time prescribed by law &c," I will be obliged to you if you will inform me what time it is the law allows for Coining. I have not been able to find the law alluded to.

We have had cool weather, and frost. It is consider ed safe for Strangers to come to town.

I am, very respectfully
Your faithful Servant.
H. C. Cammack
Treasr.

To
Dr R. M. Patterson
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

Memorandum of documents Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 & 6, accompanying Mr. Kennedy's letter of Nov. 4, (recd 15th) the documents being returned at the Supt's request.

No. 1. – Dr. Riddell to Mr. Kennedy, dated Oct. 16, 1841, asking whether the settlement urged in my letter of July 21st, will be like the Annual settlements made under warrants. Also whether his acct. of 1840, will be opened & an increased wastage allowed. – Also, that he was charged with the gross amt. of Mr. Maxwell's sweep 3000 lbs. of millimes fine = 306.25 Stand. ozs., & that if said sweep be sent to the smelters, his credit will be less than his charge, by the cost of smelting = on 3000 lbs to 232.25 Std. ozs. Asks how he shall escape this loss. –

" – Mr. Kennedy's reply, dated Oct. 21, 1841: that the settlements for 1840 not being considered satisfactory, that acct. is still open, & new Wastage & other Warrants must be issued. As to Mr. Maxwell's sweep, refers to my letter of July 21st, 41. – Urges the immediate shipment of sweep as recommended in mine of July 21st, & suggests Monday, Oct. 25 as a day for a settlement of Dr. R's account.

No. 2. Mr. Cammack to Mr. Kennedy, dated Oct. 30. That Dr. Riddell informs him that in his contemplated settlement, he proposed to introduce his sweep by estimate of the Assayer. Asks if this course is in conformity with my instructions. –

" Mr. Kennedy in reply, Oct. 30, 1841. Thinks the course proposed by Dr. R. not conformable to my instructions. That the Assayer's estimate cannot be introduced till it is known that the Smelters will take the sweep on that estimate; or unless Dr. Riddell pays over the market value, per estimate, & takes the sweep as his own, to be worked at his own expense. —

No. 3. Dr. Riddell to Mr. Kennedy Oct. 21. Reply to Mr. K.'s same date (see No 1) that he will fix, with the Treasurer, upon a day for a settlement.

Dr. Riddell to Mr. Kennedy, Oct. 30, 1841. (for copy of this letter, see letter from Dr. R. to me, on file Nov. 12, '41.)

" — Mr. Kennedy to Dr. Riddell, Nov. 3, '41. Reply to above that the settlement cannot be made on the Assayer's estimate for reasons given in the letter to Mr. Cammack of Oct. 30th, (see No. 2.) Referring to Dr. R.'s excuse for the large amt. of his wastage, Mr. K. says: "There is one part of your letter upon which I will make a single remark, solely with a view of reminding you that I am in no degree censurable for the existence of the necessity of an operation in your Department, to which you trace the large amt. of your wastage. It is that in which you refer to a communication of mine to you of the 26 Jan. last, relative to the casting into ingots all the bullion in your possession, "without any reservation whatever of fine silver for raising the standard of deposits." That order was issued after a statement by you, both to the Treasurer and myself, that you had a method of refining, which will render the keeping on hand of that fine silver, unnecessary."

No. 4. Mr. Cammack to Mr. Kennedy, Nov. 1, '41. with copy of statements, by Dr. Riddell, of the gold & silver bullion in his possession. That he (Mr. C.) had declined the settlement according to these statements, on account of the sweeps introduced (See statements enclosed.)

No. 5. Memorandums enclosed

No. 6. Mr. Kennedy to Mr. Cammack, Nov. 3d, asking him to have weighed the bullion in Dr. Riddell's hands, as per his statement. (see No. 4.) & then to return it again to be melted. That Dr. R. having declined to settle according to the Director's instructions nothing more can be done for the present. Asks Mr. C.'s recollection of Dr. R.'s statement as to the necessity of keeping fine silver to raise standard of deposits. (See conclusion of No. 3.) —

Mr. Cammack in reply, Nov. 4, '41.

Enclosing statement* of the weighing requested, which nearly agreed with Dr. Riddell's.

That the American coins, in Dr. R.'s statement, were changed for Mex. dolls., which were weighed as so much bullion, & that after weighing, the whole was again left in the hands of the Mr R. (Dr. R.).—

That his recollection of Dr. R's statement as to the necessity of fine silver was that he should no longer need it, having discovered a mode of refining which will enable him to procure fine silver when needed.

* Statement of Treasurer's weighing enclosed.

Treasury Department
October 16. 1841.

Sir

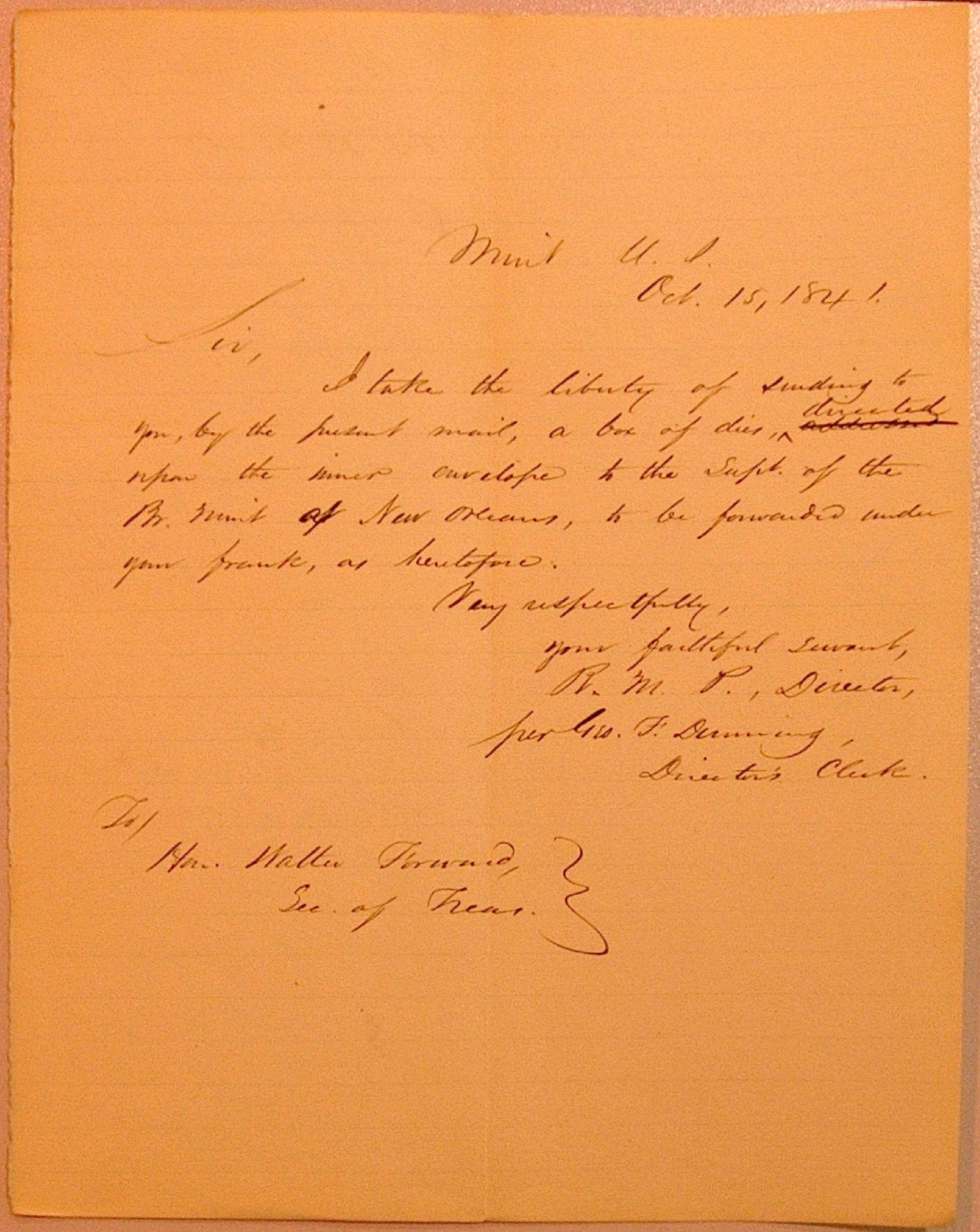
Yours of the 15th and the Box of dies referred to have been received. The box has been forwarded to the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at N. Orleans as requested by you.

Very Respectfully

W Forward
Sec. of the Treasury

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia.

P. S. The copy of a Letter from Messrs. Crocker Brothers & Co has also been received.



Mint U. S.
Oct. 15, 1841.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending to you, by the present mail, a box of dies, directed ~~addressed~~ upon the inner envelope to the Supt. of the Br. Mint of New Orleans, to be forwarded under your frank, as heretofore.

Very respectfully,
your faithful servant,
R. M. P., Director,
per Geo. F. Dunning,
Director's Clerk.

To/
Hon. Walter Forward,
Sec. of Treas.

Mint of the United States,
Oct. 14, 1841.

Sir,

Your letter of the 11th inst., to the Director of the Mint, on the subject of Mr. Philos B. Tyler's attendance as a witness at the next session of the Criminal Court in your city, was received yesterday. I have shown it to Mr. Tyler, and, at his request, I now write to say that he will postpone his return to New Orleans so as to be in Washington on the 25th inst.; and he desires that the business may be so arranged as to detain him as short a time as possible.

~~The Director~~ Dr. Patterson is absent for a few days from the city.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful servant,
Geo. F. Dunning,
Director's Clerk.

To
P. R. Fendall, Esq.,
U.S. Attorney for D.C.

Copy.

Dr. The United States for the incidental & contingent expenses & repairs of the Branch Mint, at New Orleans as paid to the following persons from the 1st July to the 30. September 1841, inclusive, in pursuance of warrants of the Superintendent, of the marginal dates & Numbers. Viz:

1841		Nos.			Dollars	Cts
July	30	318	To Benjamin Levy	for Stationary for the Mint.	150	75
.	31	320	, W. Whitney & others	, Watching the Mint in July	263	50
.	.	321	, W. Parks & W. S. Boyd	, services as Porter & doorkeeper	124	00
.	.	322	, Samuel Smith	, services as day watch &c in July	62	.
August	6	323	, R. Louis Massey	, Drugs for the melting dept.	412	78
.	.	324	, Judah Barrett	, Charcoal for the melting dept.	350	.
.	9	325	, Sprague & Sherman	, Lumber for the melting dept.	22	50
.	.	326	, Long & Smith	, Copper & Iron for melting & coining depts.	120	80
.	.	327	, Jarvis & Andrews	, Oil Vitriol for melting departmt.	18	86
.	.	328	, John Clark	, Blacksmith work for do do	127	60
.	.	329	, Layton & Co	, Hardware for the Mint	521	19
.	.	330	, Leeds & Co	, Melting Pots for melting dept.	270	98
.	.	331	, Young Buzby & Co	, Charcoal for melting dept.	70	00
.	10	332	, Commercial Water Works	, Hose & fixtures for the Mint	72	81
.	.	333	, Zacharie Hellman & Co	, Soap & Candles for melting dept.	57	91
.	.	334	, John L. Clay	, Plumbing from 10 Aug 1840 to 6 Aug 41.	203	35
.	.	335	, Jacob Baumiller	, Hoisting Wheel for melting dept.	90	00
.	.	336	, A. T. Simpson	, Lumber for melting departmt.	11	17
.	.	337	, Joseph L. Bessier	, Charcoal for do do	22	80
.	17	338	, Thompson Phillips	, Carpenters work do do	77	75
.	.	339	, James Leach	, Lumber for do do	21	16
.	.	340	, William DeBuys	, Ditto do do	44	36
.	20	341	, Samuel Smith	, Services as day watch in August	30	00
.	28	342	, John Craig & J. McReid	, On a/c of rebuilding flues	150	00
Septr	2	343	, John Craig & J. McReid	, On a/c of rebuilding flues	200	00
.	4	345	, W. Parks & W. S. Boyd	, Services as Porter & doorkr. in August	124	00
.	.	346	, John H. Wielage	, Services as day watch in August	31	00
.	16	347	, Chas. S. Wheeler	, 1000. Fire Bricks, melting dept.	63	00
.				Carried forward	$3,714	27

1841						
			To Amount brought forward		3,714	27
Sept	16	348	, Herman Weicke	for Charcoal for melting depts.	50	00
.	20	349	, Rooney & McGinn	, Mason work for coining do	23	75
.	22	350	, John Craig & J. McReid	, On a/c of rebuilding flues.	350	00
.	24	351	, J. S. Wickes	, Expenses incurred acct. Mint.	46	76
.	.	352	, Alexander Kirkman & Co	, One Fairbanks Scales for melting depts.	60	00
.	30	353	, Francisco Gomez	, Building furnace in melting dept.	45	00
.	.	356	, William Smith	, Repairing Boiler.	40	00
.	.	357	, George Love	, making & painting fence in yard.	46	00
					$4,375	78

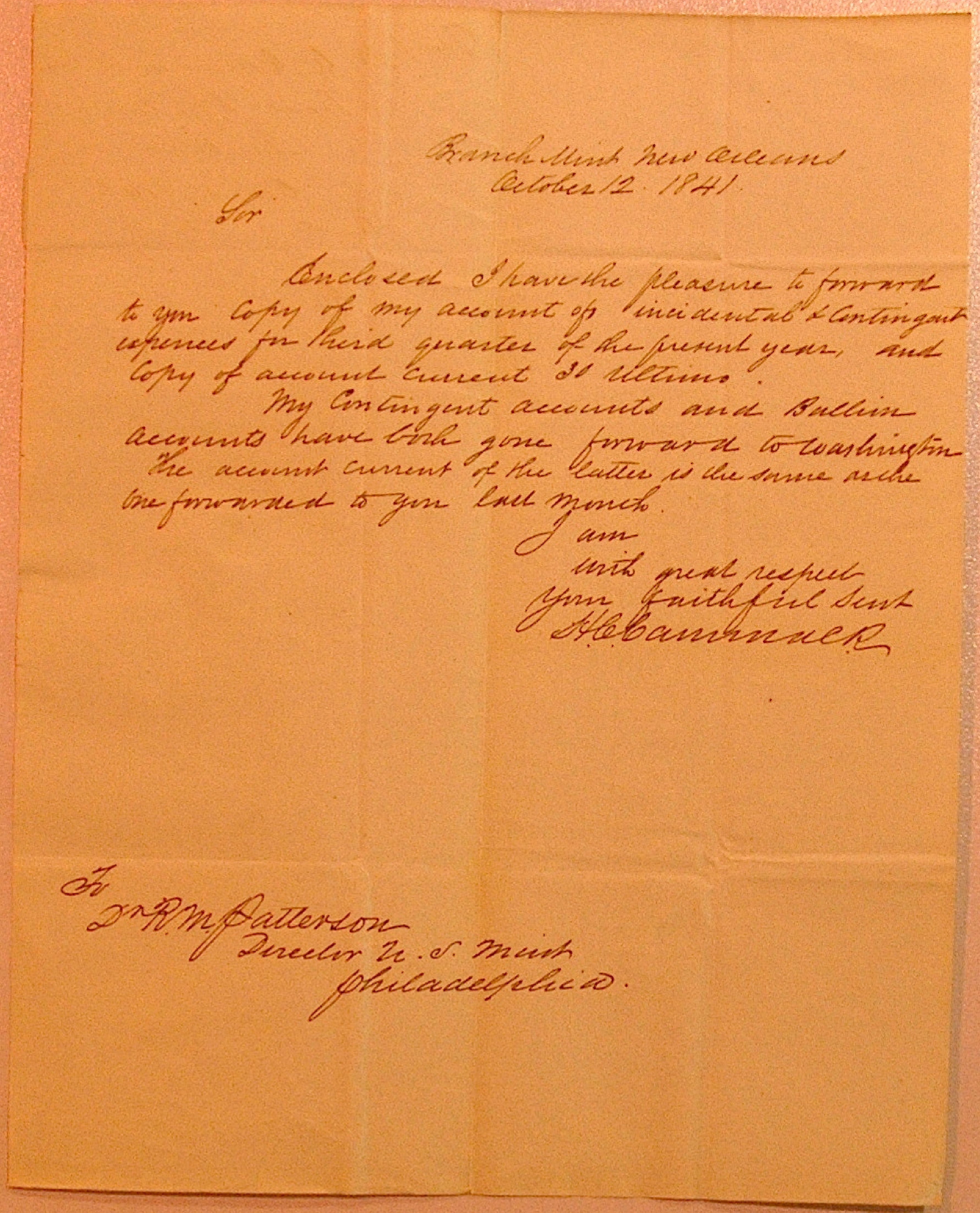
Branch Mint of the United States New Orleans
Treasurer's Office September 30th 1841.
A. C. Cammack
Trr.

Dr. The United States in Account with Horace C. Cammack, Treasurer of the Branch Mint at New Orleans
His account of the ordinary receipts & expenditures for the quarter ending the 30th of September 1841. Cr.

1841			Dollars	Cts
Sept	30	To Amount paid from 1st July to 30th September, inclusive, for the incidental & contingent expenses & repairs of the Mint.	4.375	78
„	„	„ Amount paid for Wages of Laborers, employed in the Branch Mint.	4.531	25
„	„	„ Amount paid for the Salaries of the Officers & Clerks, of the Branch Mint, for the quarter ending this day.	3.225	00
„	„	„ Balance to new account	2.662	89
			$14.794	92

1841			Dollars	Cts
June	30	By Balance remaining in the Treasurer's hands as per account rendered to this date.	594	92
July	30	„ Amount of Draft of the Treasurer of the United States No. 5718. for the incidental & contingent expenses, & repairs of the Mint; Wages of Laborers, & Salaries of the Officers & Clerks	14.200	00
			$14.794	92

Branch Mint of the United States New Orleans
Treasurer's Office September 30th 1841.
H. C. Cammack
Trer.



Branch Mint New Orleans
October 12 1841

Sir

Enclosed I have the pleasure to forward to you copy of my account of incidental & Contingent expences for third quarter of the present year, and copy of account current 30 ultimo.

My Contingent accounts and Bullion accounts have both gone forward to Washington. The account current of the latter is the same as the one forwarded to you last month.

I am
with great respect
Your faithful Servt
H C Cammack

To
Dr R. M. Patterson
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia.

Washington October 11. 1841

Sir,

Your letter of the 7th inst. to the Secretary of the Treasury, on the subject of Mr. Philos B. Tyler's recognisance to attend as a witness at the next session of the Criminal Court for this county, has been referred to me by the Secretary.

When Mr. Tyler was here I explained to him the necessity of the recognisance; and expressed my desire to prevent any avoidable inconvenience, either to the department of the public service which he is employed in, or to himself personally. I fear however that, without defeating the ends of justice, the personal attendance of Mr. Tyler cannot be dispensed with.

In the case for which he is wanted the amount of property stolen from Mr. Kendall was about $.200; but the coins as to which Mr. Tyler will testify are the only portion of it about which there is any present prospect of obtaining proof. The accused is supposed to belong to a gang of offenders who have hitherto eluded discovery; the evidence against him is altogether circumstantial; Mr. Tyler's testimony is an important link in the chain of circumstances; and his affidavit cannot be used in evidence without the consent of the accused, who has a constitutional right to be confronted with the witnesses against him.

I should not, moreover, deem it safe for the U. States to go to trial on the present affidavit. It was made during the absence of the Magistrate having custody of the coins, and therefore does not identify them: neither does it state the grounds of Mr. Tyler's opinion, that when he left New Orleans on the 31st. of July last, the quarter dollars which he brought with him were the only pieces of coin stamped in a particular die which had then left that city: and there are other omissions in the affidavit which the course of the trial might make material, and which Mr. T. might be able to supply.

If Mr. Tyler has not yet returned to New Orleans, and can take this city in his way home, he might examine and identify the coins, and give a full affidavit. I would then make application to the prisoner's counsel to receive it. If both these objects cannot be effected, and some day of the term later than the 25th. instant would be more convenient to Mr. Tyler, I could postpone the matter to that day.

I am, Sir,

Yours very respectfully,

P. R. Fendall. U. S. Atty. for D.C.

R. M. Patterson Esq.
Director, &c. U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia

Mint U.S.
Oct. 7, 1841.

Sir,

Mr. Philos B. Tyler, Coiner of the New Orleans Branch Mint, made, as you know, a visit to Washington, about a fortnight ago. While there, he was summoned, on the 23d of September, before a Magistrate named Mosely, who bound him under a penalty of $500, to appear at Court ~~in that~~ on the last Monday in October, to give evidence in a criminal case. He made affidavit of what he knew relating to the case, but could not get released from the bond. Now his detention, until the ~~term~~ time at which he is bound to appear, would be a serious in~~convenience~~terference with the public services required of him at the New Orleans Mint, which is expected to resume, at an early day, ~~the~~ its operations, ~~which have been~~ now temporarily suspended. — Under these circumstances, I feel myself forced to apply to you to cause such steps to be taken, if possible, as may serve to relieve Mr. Tyler from the necessity of appearing at Washington at the end of this month, ~~to give~~ for the purpose of giving oral testimony on a a point with regard to which he has already made affidavit of all he knows.

R. M. P.
D

To
Hon. Walter Forward
Sec. of Treasury.

Philadelphia Oct 6th 1841

Sir.

When in Washington on the 23d of September, I was summoned before a Magistrate, who bound me to appear at court in that city, on the last Monday in October, to give evidence in a criminal case. I made affidavit of what I knew relating to the case; but could not get released from the bond, and as you are aware that my services are expected in New Orleans on the 1st of November, I am desirous of having your advice and assistance on the subject, so far as you deem it necessary

The name of the District Attorney is Kendall. and the Magistrate is Mosely.

Very Respectfully
Your Faithful Servant
Philos B. Tyler.
Coiner U.S. Br. Mint N.O.

Dr R. M. Patterson
Director U.S. Mint

Mint U.S.

Oct. 6 /41.

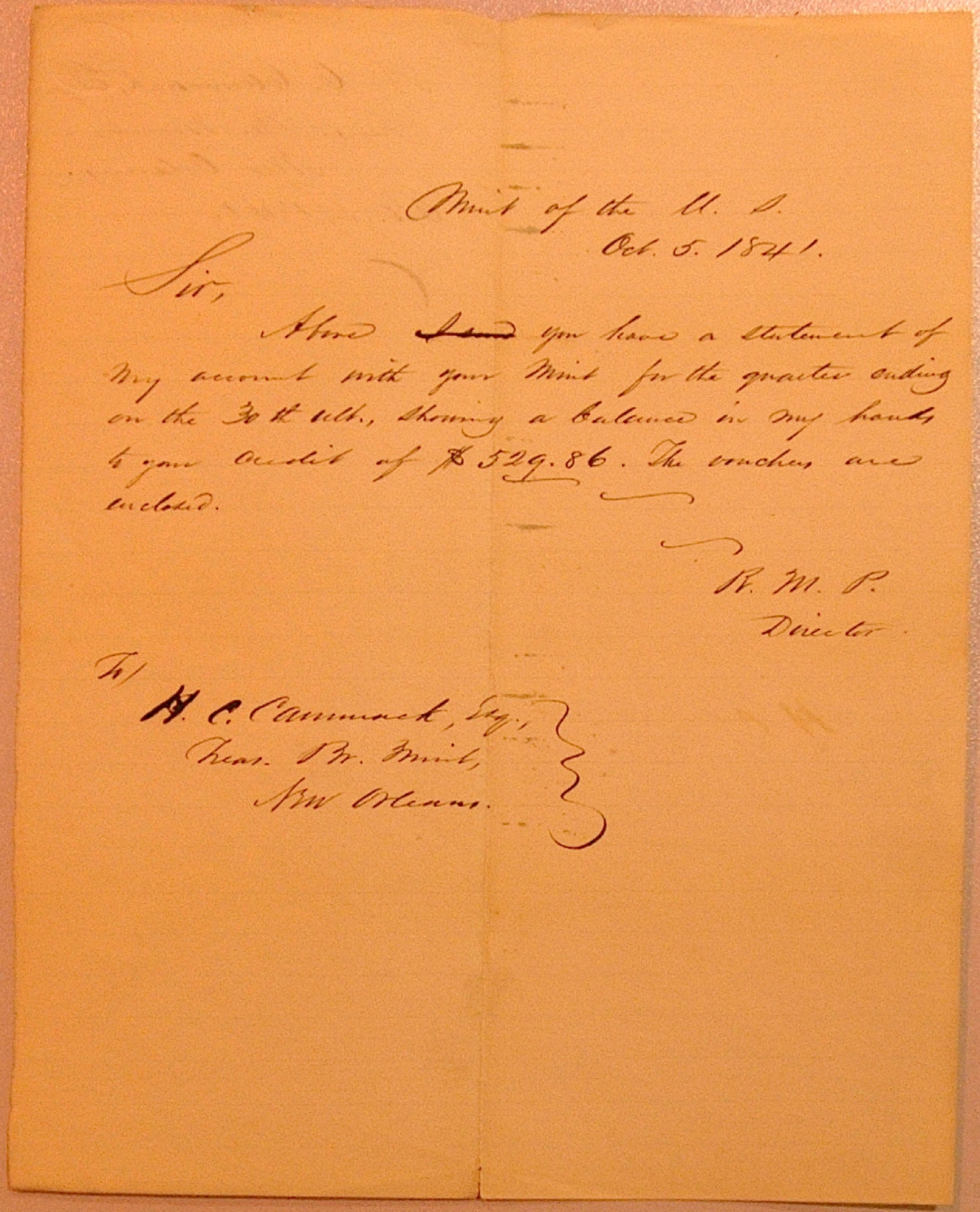
Sir,

Mr. ~~Rufus~~ Philip B. Tyler, Coiner of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, had felt it very important, ever since his appointment to office, that he should visit the Philadelphia Mint ~~here~~, and examine the machinery and witness the operations here, in order to improve those in the ~~corresponding~~ department under his charge. A necessary interruption in the work at the New Orleans Mint has enabled him to make the proposed visit, and he has felt that the advantages of it have been very important.

The necessary ~~expenses~~ travelling expenses of this visit ~~to which he has been subjected~~ will amount to about $250. He asks that these may be allowed to him, and this cannot be done without your consent, for which he informs me, that he has applied. In support of his claim, I have to state, that I believe his visit to have been of no small ~~importance~~ advantage to the interests of his department, — that he has been able to save expense to the New Orleans Branch by having work for it executed here under his superintendence, — and that the travelling expenses of the Assayer and Melter & Refiner, under similar circumstances, were allowed.

To Hon. Walter Forward,
Sec. of Treasury.

R. M. P., D.



Mint of the U. S.
Oct. 5. 1841.

Sir,

Above ~~I send~~ you have a statement of my account with your Mint for the quarter ending on the 30th ult., showing a balance in my hands to your credit of $ 529.86. The vouchers are enclosed.

R. M. P.
Director.

To/

H. C. Cammack, Esq.,
Treas. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

New Orleans September 21 1841.

Dear Sir

I wrote to you a few days ago with copy of trial balance of the Bullion Books of the Mint for August. The Books at the close of this quarter will be exactly the same as there have been no transactions during this month.

I have not received a line from Washington since the repeal of the Sub Treasury bill. I have on hand still Two hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars of the public money which keeps me in the City and make me rather uneasy while so many workmen and others are about the Mint.

The yellow fever is on the increase in the City and there have been some more cases at the Mint among the number my daughter aged 12 years and, who, I am happy to say, has recovered.

Mr Girault, my clerk under the Sub-Treasury law, has had a relapse, and is now *very dangerously* ill, and the porter employed under the same act is also down. At foot I will give you a memorandum of all who have been sick.

Mr Wicks who was clerk in my office left me yesterday. He has a more lucrative employment in a Counting house where a vacancy was caused by the death of the book keeper. I offered to pay him an additional sum myself so as to make his salary equal to the place he has accepted, but, as he has just married a lady without income, he is ambitious to enter a field where he has a chance to advance himself by merit.

I had continued, until they got sick, in my employ the clerk and porter of the Sub Treasury with the understanding, however, that they are to be paid only in case their salary & wages should be allowed by the department.

I am with assurances
of respect & Esteem
Your faithful Servant
A. C. Cammack

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Philadelphia

Cases of fever.

Margaret	Irish woman, Servant in Coiner's dwelling
Stafford	Laborer in the Coining department.
Samuel Riddell	foreman melting department
John	Irishman, Groom & Coachman, Treasr.
Louise	Swiss or french woman, nurse in Tr. fam.
Young	Laborer in Coining department
Mrs Young	residing in the Coiner's dwelling
Margaret	Irish woman, Servant in Coiner's dwelling
Daily	watchman.
Anthony	porter in Sub Treasury

all sleeping in the mint except the watchman.

Miss Cammack & Mr Girault
making in all 12 cases.

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Sept 28. 1841

Sir,

The following is our Estimate for the year 1842.

Compensation to the Superintendent	$2.500.	
Do ...... " ...... Treasurer	" 2000.	
Do ...... " ...... Coiner	" 2000.	
Do ...... " ...... Melter & Refiner	" 2000.	
Do ...... " ...... Assayer	" 2000.	
Do to 2 Clerks $1200 each	" 2400.	$12.900
Compensation to Laborers in the diff^t Departments		22.000.
Incidental & Contingent Expenses, including fuel, materials, Taxes, and Wastage of Gold & Silver		17.100.
For rebuilding flues of Melting Department		1.500
For Iron Rods for strengthening walls of North & South wings of the Mint		1.600
		$55.100.

On looking over the appropriations for our Branch Mint, we have ascertained that the balance in the Treasury under the head of Contingent fund, will not more than suffice to pay our *ordinary* contingent expenses for the next quarter.

It is for that reason that I have asked for an increase of $3100 upon the Estimate of the present year, for the flues, and rods, with regard to the necessity of inserting which I refer you to the enclosed copy of a Report from Mr. Walter, an able architect, by whom an examination was made at my request. I have had these walls inspected by other builders, all of whom agree as to the imperious necessity of applying the proper remedy to the Northern Wing with the least possible delay. I ~~think~~ trust you will think me justified in having contracted for that much of the work without having previously laid the matter before you — As the other wing must be, sooner or later, strengthened in the same way, I think it had better be done at the same time.

I intended to have submitted some of our other affairs to you in this communication, but, being not quite ready, I have determined to send you the Estimate at once.

Very respectfully

Yr. obedt. Servt.

J. M. Kennedy

Supt.

R. M. Patterson Esq.

Director of the Mint

of the U. S.

Philadelphia.

"Copy"

New Orleans, 17th Sept. 1841

J. M. Kennedy, Esqr.

Sir,

Agreeably to your request, I have examined the Arches that support the floors over the First and Second Stories of the U. S. Branch Mint, and find that the lateral thrust or pressure of the Arches, has forced out the front and rear walls to a considerable extent, and the crowns of the Arches have consequently sunk down, and are much cracked on the under side. — These defects have arisen from not having the abutments of the Arches tied together by iron bars, as should have been done when the Arches were being built. — Further delapidation may however, be now prevented, by the insertion of an iron rod of 1½ inches diameter, quite across the building from front to rear, at the height of about six inches above the Springing point of each groin, the rod passing through the abutments of the Arches, where they press against the walls, and over the inside pillars which support the Arches within the building. — Each rod to be attached at each end to a large Cast iron plate, by which the force exerted by the rod, may be transferred over a large Surface of the wall outside, and the plate may be sunk into the brickwork, so that when plastered over on the front, it will not appear on the outside. —

The Arches of the North wing, are in a worse condition than those of the South wing; but as they are all defective, an immediate remedy should be applied, for they will continue to become daily worse, until in a short time, the safety of the whole building will be jeopardized.

The cost of putting in these rods, will for the two wings be about Sixteen hundred Dollars. Each wing will require eight of these rods viz: four in the first Story, and four in the Second Story of each wing.

Respectfully,
Your Obt. Servt.
(Signed) Jas Gallier Archt.

New Orleans May 29th 1842

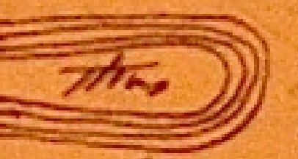
Dear Sir

I am informed by Mr Cammack that he sent you $20. subject to my order, & that you require my order before it can be paid &c accordingly I herewith send you the order required. I should have sent an order at the time to Mrs Tyler. but when I handed. 32$ to Mr C's clerk. merely told him to request you to pay $12 to Martin Summers for Mr Hooper. & the remaining $20. to Mrs Tyler.

When I conversed with you last summer. you was of the opinion that this branch mint would be suspended for 3 months every summer. The Secy of the Treasury also, expressed the same opinion. and I sincerely hope for my own part that it may be the case; for my health is so very bad, as also that of my wife. that we really require some change. if not by a visit to a northern climate, at least. of recreation in the country. I believe that by suspending all the workmen but 2 or 3. for 3 months beginning with the 15th of July- the government will not only effect a saving of several thousand dollars, but the public will be perfectly satisfied –

I have made two or three important improvements in our machinery since my return from the north.

I mentioned to Mr Peal when there that I had thought of improving the draw bench so that one man could operate it, but having some doubt of its success, I did not describe my plan.— I have since discovered a very simple mode of doing it. which did not cost in all over $20. which has been in operation now two months. most admirably. and is not only worked by one man, with perfect ease. but nearly twice as fast, as by 2 men in the old way.

I at once adopted the new mode of greasing. which suggested the necessity of bringing the strips into the drawing room free from short crooks. for which I have made an improvement in the mode of annealing strips which has also been in use two months with perfect success. we put about 50 strips into an iron frame in the form of a loop 

four of which go into the furnace at one time. After they are sufficiently heated. which is done perfectly even with less trouble than in the old way. the frame is turned bottom upwards upon a flat plate of iron which liberates the strips. and they are then straightened out, all at one time, while red hot. and forced hard against a square bar of iron. & then dipped all at once into a long trough of water. This not only takes out all the short bends. and renders them perfectly straight. but saves one half of the time. formerly occupied in bending. annealing & straightening the strips. besides the advantage of having 200. strips in the furnace at one time. renders necessary for the annealer to stand at the furnace only one fifth part of the time formerly occupied. which is no small importance in this climate.

Our last improvement is in the hot rolling. which consists simply in fixing guides to bring the ingots out straight. so that ~~the~~ no experience, or trouble is required in taking them out rapidly. So far as putting the ingots through the rolls is concerned. just one half of the time is saved, as two ingots can now be put through in as short a time as one could possibly have been done before— an advantage is als derived from their being straight. as they are much more easily handled. we generally heat 4000. ounces at a time which is equal to 110 ingots. which as a rule with us are now rolled 5 times through with the usual number of heatings. in from 45. to 50 minutes & has been done in 30 This time is taken however from the time the rolling commen exclusive only of the first heating— These guides a only a part of the improvement in the hot rolling. as I believe that it can be arranged so that 2 men can do the heating & rolling with the same ease that 4 now do it.—

Should our mint suspend, I shoul be tempted to make an economical trip to the north. as the expense would be about the same, as for suitable recreation here.

Yours Sincerely

Philos B. Tyler

To/ Dr R.M. Patterson

Mint of the United States.
July 21, 1842.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 12th inst., with which you sent me a "Summary Statement of the Silver Account of the 4th quarter of 1841, of the New Orleans Branch Mint as stated in accordance with the corrected account furnished by the Treasurer," and ask me "to examine the form in which the credits appear, and my opinion as to their being properly introduced in this account, — and if not, to suggest some mode by which they could be put in due form."

I have given the subject my careful attention, and have consulted such parts of my correspondence with the New Orleans Mint as have a bearing upon it, and I now send you my views embodied in two ~~accounts~~ sheets, — one presenting a Silver Bullion Account, the other the Melters & Refiners Account of Silver. ~~If the Silver Bullion account~~ ~~the first of these~~ The first of these is in a great measure fictitious as to the amounts, but you have the means of substituting the right numbers.* ~~Some of the items~~ ~~You will see~~ ~~also [illegible] in the account [illegible]~~ though ~~that the objection to two of the credits~~ ~~they are not in any respect belong to accounts of the kind~~ ~~the Statement [illegible] that to me. The first is —~~ ~~"Silver" Ordinary Deposits &c for amount transferred~~ ~~for [illegible] sweeps~~ ~~The second will be suffic~~

* The charge to "Sundry Accounts" would not appear in the true Account, unless some of the deposites in th~~e~~ quarter remained unpaid at the end of it. I deem it best, however, to give all the items that may properly be introduced into an account of this kind.

The M. & R.'s account of Silver will be sufficiently explained by the letter which accompany it; and in this account, I believe the amounts to be correct.

I ~~am~~ have not been able to determine, from the summary submitted to me, what was the form of the silver bullion account rendered by the Treasurer of the New Orleans Mint, ~~but from the face of it it would appear that some of the credits have not been properly introduced~~ and I have therefore thought it best to lay before you such forms as I ~~think~~ judged ~~unobjectional~~ suited to the case, and free from ~~un~~objection ~~&c~~.

R. M. P.

D

To/
Tully R. Wise, Esq.
First Auditor

Washington 27th May 1842

Sir,

I acknowledge your letter of the 24th inst. The subject alluded to, the appropriation for the laborers in the New Orleans mint, had previously been a source of solicitude :— The State of the case is certainly not exactly as it should be, tho' I don't think it quite as bad as you apprehend.

It appears by the Books at the Treasury, that the real, available, undrawn balance on the 1st January 1842, was $12320, of which $5000 have since been drawn — To this sum of 12320 remaining on hand for the year

1842, add the $2000 of the Bill, and the available aggregate is $14320, which the committee considered would be about equal to the average expenditure of some years past, under that head: The calculation is too low - it will in all probability fall short of the exigence some three or four thousand dollars; but there was no reasoning with the spirit of Curtailment. It was but applying to this item, the system brought to bear on every thing else - the army, the Navy, the Civil functionaries. If the provision for the laborers at the ~~[illegible]~~ mint should prove insufficient, they will, I suppose have to wait for justice in the appropriation of next Session, which, the Session being a short one, will of necessity be acted on at a comparatively early day. —

Yours obt. st

E D White

R. M. Patterson Esq

Mint U.S.
Mar. 24, 1842.

Sir,

In the estimates which I presented for the expenses of the New Orleans Mint for the present year, I set down the item "for the wages of Workmen" at $22,000, my estimate being founded on information received from the Superintendent.

In the beginning of February last, the ~~[illegible]~~ congressional document exhibiting the appropriations ~~recom~~ reported by the Committee of Ways and Means came into my hands, and I was surprised to see this item of $22000 cut down to $2000. I immediately wrote to the Chairman, Mr. Fillmore, and learned from him that the amount of this appropriation had been reduced in consequence of a balance of $12000 of the corresponding appropriation of last year remaining undrawn at its close.

On the 15th of February, I replied to Mr. Fillmore that I had no doubt that the sum of $12000, although undrawn at the close of 1841, had actually been expended; and it is, indeed, impossible that there could have been a saving in the cost of wages of more than half the whole appropriation. I called his attention, moreover, to the circumstance that even if $12000 could be legitimately deducted, it would reduce the amount required to $10,000 and not to 2000.

As I had no precise information, however, as to the actual expenditures of the New Orleans Mint for 1841, I informed Mr. Fillmore that I had written to the Superintendent to call his attention to the ~~m~~ matter, — which I did, in fact, on the same day.

In consequence of this letter, Mr. Kennedy wrote to Mr. Fillmore and to Mr. Barrow, and I presume he communicated to them the necessary explanation as to the $12,000 undrawn at the end of the last year, — for I observe that an attempt was made in the Senate to increase the appropriation, ~~for wages~~
~~[illegible] attempt [illegible],~~
~~to increase this appropriation.~~

I have been surprised and alarmed, however, at finding, that the actual appropriation made, in the recent law, for paying the wages of the workmen at the New Orleans Mint, during the whole of the present year, is but $2000. Although I am still uninformed as to the actual expenditures of the last year, and as to the true balance, if any, applicable to the present, yet I cannot doubt, that if Congress does not make a new appropriation under this head, the operations of the Mint must be ~~forthwith~~ suspended.

Under these circumstances, I have taken the liberty of addressing you, as representative from the Orleans district, to ~~ask your attention to the~~ ~~invoke you to come to the rescue of your Mint~~ ~~aid~~ ask your aid in averting, from the Branch Mint, an evil which would, ~~as~~ I believe, ~~entirely~~ ~~destroy it or~~ arrest its course, when such does not seem to be the ~~desire~~ intention of Congress.

May I suggest to you the ~~importance~~ propriety of first ascertaining, at the Treasury Department, what have been the actual payments made, during the year 1841, for wages of ~~the~~ workmen; so as to be able to state, with certainty, what *bona fide* balance, if any, was left available for the present year. This balance is the ~~important point~~ basis on which the reduction was founded, and it is important to know how far it ~~true~~ ~~is well founded~~ ~~I feel quite confident that~~ really extends.

I have written to Mr. Kennedy again, to rouse his attention to the condition in which his Mint is likely to be placed, and to ask the above information, but I fear that the time ~~spent~~ lost in so distant a correspondence cannot now be spared. — The Committee of Ways & Means have most onerous duties to perform, and moreover I am unable to lay before them a case different from that presented by me in February. I hope, therefore, that you will excuse my appeal to you. — The propriety of maintaining the Branch Mints is a grave question, with regard to which a difference of opinion may well exist; but if they are to be abolished, I believe that most right-minded persons will agree that this should be done by the force of a direct law, and not by the withholding of a necessary appropriation. As the law at present stands, the effect must be that the operations will be suspended, & the workmen discharged, while the officers, with nothing to do, will continue to receive their salaries.

Very respectfully,
Your faithful Servant
R. M. P.

To/
Hon. Edwd. D. White.

H. O.

To/ Hon. Edwd. D. White,
Ho. Reps.
Washington.

May 24-25. 1842.

New Orleans 21 May 1842

Sir

I send you a newspaper giving an account of mob yesterday.

This morning every thing is quiet.

I am your obt s

H. C[illegible]

To Dr Patterson

Mint U.S.
May 19th, 1842.

Sir,

In a letter of the 15th of February, I called your attention to the ~~fact~~ circumstance that the Committee of Ways & Means had cut down the appropriation for wages of workmen at your Mint, from $22,000 the amount asked, to $2000, in consequence, as the Chairman informed me, of your having $12,220, under this head, undrawn at the end of 1841. I told you that I had written to Mr. Fillmore on the subject, ~~&~~ and had mentioned, that, even on his own ground, the appropriation should ~~&~~ only have been reduced to $10,000; but, as I was not acquainted with the true condition of your appropriations for last year, I could not speak positively with regard to it, and therefore I begged that you would yourself "act ~~fr~~ promptly and effectually in the matter, or your operations for the present year might be most seriously embarrassed."

I received no answer to this letter, and am still not in possession of the needful any facts to enable me to make a ~~full~~ proper representation of the case to the Committee. I observed, however, that an attempt was made, in the Senate, to ~~raise~~ increase this item of appropriation, and I supposed therefore that you had taken the measures recommended to you. But I have now before me a copy of the appropriation bill as passed into a law, and I am distressed to find that your appropriation for

"Compensation of workmen" is but $ 2000.

Now I pray you, on the receipt of this letter, to inform me of the true state of your last year's appropriations as to this item, and, moreover, to give me a statement of the amounts paid, in each ~~month~~ of 1837, for "wages of workmen." — It is very important, ~~moreover~~ besides that you should write to the representatives from New Orleans, and any other members of Congress whom you can to interest in the matter. If this appropriation cannot be increased, I see not ~~one cent left for you but~~ how your operations can be con~~ducted~~tinued.

R. M. P.
D—

To
Jos. M. Kennedy, Esq.
Superintendent of Branch Mint,
New Orleans.

Branch Mint New Orleans May 16. 1842.

Dr. R. M. Patterson, Director U. S. Mint.

Sir — I am pained, that in laying before you the following copies of letters &c. you will perceive there is not that cordiality of feeling, and that gentlemanly forbearance between certain officers of this mint, which the dignity and prosperity of the institution require. I lay this matter before you, not in the way of accusation, but merely to vindicate myself in your esteem. Content to perform the duties of my department to the best of my ability, I have neither thought it incumbent on me, nor felt it my inclination to inquire into, and interfere with the affairs of my fellow officers. Aware, when poor M^c^Carthy was encouraged first to annoy me with slanders, and subsequently to procure my arrest, that different statements of the affair to my prejudice, were communicated indirectly to your ear, I think it proper to give you at once the length, breadth, depth, quality, beginning and end of this matter in an authentic shape.

Respectfully Your Obedient Servant

J. L. Riddell

Copies.

Branch Mint New Orleans May 7th 1842.

J. M. Kennedy Esq. Supt. Br. Mint.

Sir. As you apprised me this morning that you think it your duty when the progress of the mint is endangered by arrest of any of its officers, to immediately lay the facts before the Director at Philadelphia

I address you this note. I have been unprovokedly arrested on the affidavitt of a fellow officer, the coiner, R. B. Tyler, on a base, false, slanderous and malicious charge; viz— beating and abusing a woman. I request you to withhold your report from the Director until after Wednesday 11th. inst. at which time the same will undergo legal investigation, and if the charge be in any degree sustained, I will save you trouble, by tendering at once my resignation as melter and refiner. I am not aware of having given any cause of provocation or offence to the coiner, that he should thus be induced to organize and attempt to execute a plan for my destruction. The only subject of difference between us, which has ever lately received a moments thought from me, has been his refusal for near six months past to pickle the silver clippings from which dimes and half dimes are cut. Of this you have been aware. I have looked upon Dr. Patterson's letter of (*) as requiring they should be pickled; and I have consequently supposed I have been a constant loser by receiving them without. I could not have supposed that this difference of opinion could have prompted the coiner, to attempt the ruin of my character, and my consequent displacement from office, by the spreading of slanderous reports and the adoption of active hostile measures. But thanks to an overruling Providence, I am not only innocent of all the slanders alleged, but have the most ample and satisfactory means of establishing my innocence, by meeting these slanders and refuting them.

Respectfully &c.

J. L. Riddell

---

*Date not set down, in the copy you gave me. I suppose it must have been Jan. or Feb. 1841. Subject— Comments on my annual settlement of Dec. 31. 1840.

State of Louisiana vs. John L. Riddell.
Recorder's office Municipality No. One.

Personally came and appeared before me, Paul Bertus, Recorder of Municipality No. One of the City of New Orleans, duly commissioned and sworn as justice of the peace, P. B. Tyler, who being duly sworn declares, that he is credibly informed by one Widow Ann Mack Sheehy that on several occasions and again on the morning of the 5th instant at the hour of about o'clock in the United States Branch Mint Hotel within the first municipality, she was assaulted, beaten, bruised and mutilated by one John L. Riddell against the peace and dignity of the state. Deponent further states that from the blows she received from said Riddell she lies now on her bed.

Signed P. B. Tyler.

Sworn to and subscribed at
New Orleans May. 6. 1842.
before Paul Bertus.
Recorder My No. 1.

Mrs. Mack Sheehy's statement, deposited in the Recorder's office. Concluding part.

"Though I received blows from some women in J. L. Riddell's house, yet I hereby declare that from J. L. Riddell personally I have never heretofore received any corporeal abuse whatever. New Orleans May 9th 1842.

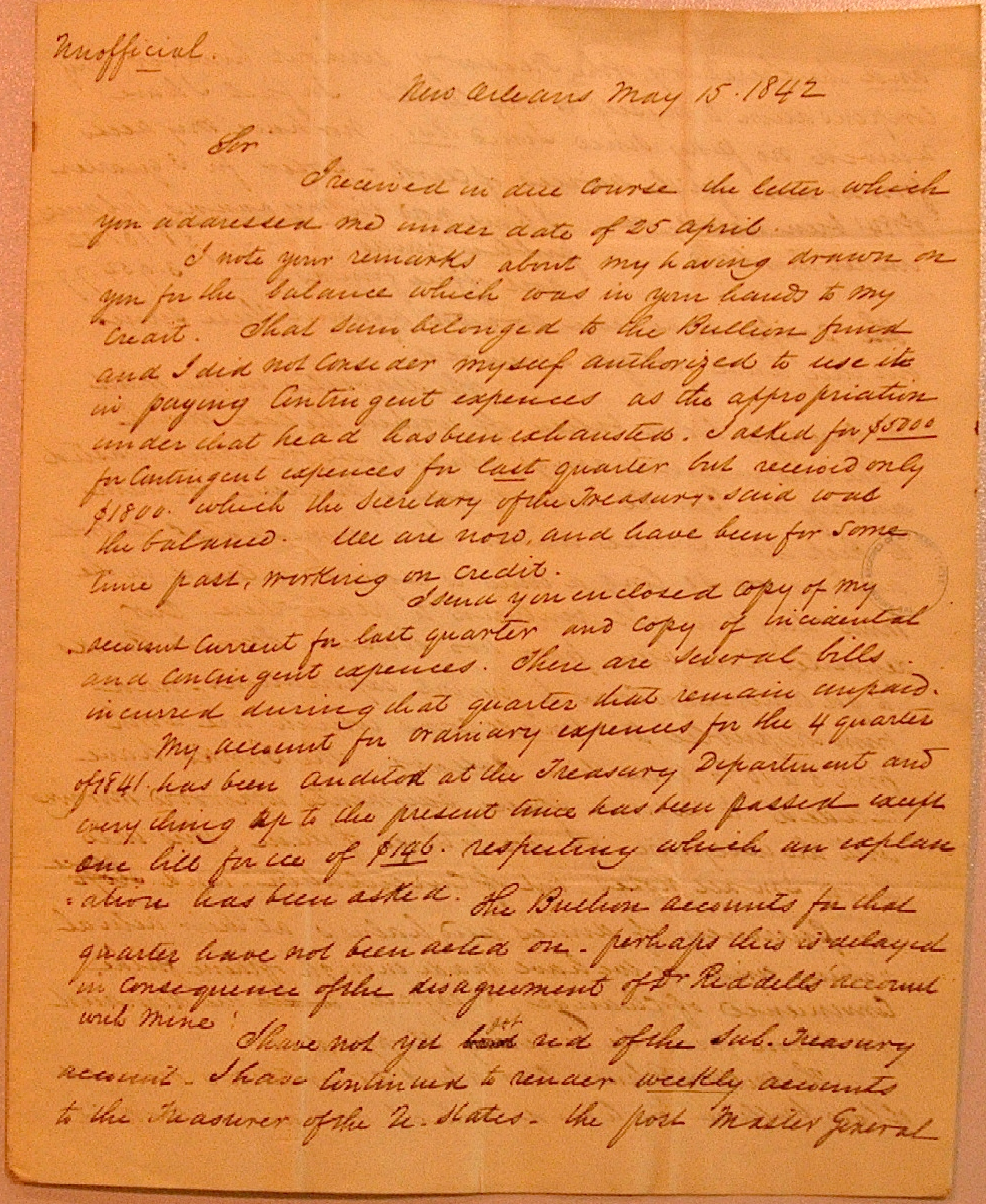
Attest
Signed Mrs. Bridget Ann Mack Sheehy.

Signed Anne Byrnes
Ann her x mark Burns, wife of John Burns.
"

Recorder's decision

Defendant "honorably discharged."
"New Orleans 11th May, 1842
Signed Paul Bertus
Recorder M'y. No. 1.
"

From Dr. J. L. Riddell
M. N. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.
May 16. 1842.
Recd. " 25. "



Unofficial.

New Orleans May 15. 1842

Sir

I received in due course the letter which you addressed me under date of 25 april.

I note your remarks about my having drawn on you for the balance which was in your hands to my Credit. That sum belonged to the Bullion fund and I did not consider myself authorized to use it in paying Contingent expences as the appropriation under that head has been exhausted. I asked for $5000 for Contingent expences for *last* quarter but received only $1800. which the Secretary of the Treasury said was the balance. We are now, and have been for some time past, working on credit.

I send you enclosed copy of my account Current for last quarter and copy of incidental and Contingent expences. There are several bills incurred during that quarter that remain unpaid.

My account for ordinary expences for the 4 quarter of 1841 has been audited at the Treasury Department and every thing up to the present time has been passed except *one* bill for ice of $146. respecting which an explanation has been asked. The Bullion accounts for that quarter have not been acted on. perhaps this is delayed in consequence of the disagreement of Dr Riddell's account with mine.

I have not yet ~~had~~ got rid of the Sub. Treasury account. I have continued to render *weekly* accounts to the Treasurer of the U. States. the post Master General

and the Secretary of the Treasury, without however any compensation to myself or my clerks. In fact I have received no pay since June 1841. Nor have my accts forwarded for the services of clerk & porter for 3 quarter of 1841 been acted on. I have now in my hands balances under this head.
public funds $8.131.32
post office funds —— 3.954.77
~~The~~ Drafts have been drawn against these sums but they have not yet appeared.

The deposites in the Mint for coinage have fallen off within the last month. The misunderstandings which have, for a time, existed among the Banks have made it prudent for them to keep their specie under their immediate control and, as ~~so~~ so long a time is required to coin it in the Mint, they have not ventured to place it there. Our deposites have been from two sources. From the Banks, to get American coins to prevent exportations,- and from the public, for small coins, which are worth from 5 to 10 % more than dollars. The Banks have decided to resume specie payments tomorrow morning with the exception of two or three of them. this will throw small notes out of circulation - and ~~stop~~ place the currency of dimes and halves at their actual value. and, as we have made enough of them for the convenience of change, I expect ~~to see~~ the demand for them will be entirely stopped.

The Melter & Refiner has about 25 or 26.000 ounces of loro bullion on hand which remains locked up as so much dead capital. He cannot use it for the coinage of fine silver - it is about 800 fine. Something has been said about sending it to the Philadelphia Mint to be coined. ~~as~~ It seems to me that this is too large an amount to keep idle and, at the suggestion of Mr Kennedy, I beg to enquire what amount you have unoccupied in this way in the parent Mint.

Much has been said here about the appointment of superintendent of this Branch. Some persons think that the nomination of Mr Caldwell will not be confirmed - and a great number of persons are applying for the place, some of them certainly very little qualified to fill it. Mr Balie Peyton U.S. dist. Atty mentioned to me a few days ago that he had written to Washington recommending that I should be appointed - I have made no application - but if a change is to be made, and I can keep the dwelling I would prefer the place of superintendent. It is my intention to ask two months leave of absence this summer, to visit Washington and Philadelphia, and I hope that I shall have the pleasure of seeing you before the summer closes.

I am, very sincerely
Your faithful servant
H. Lammner

To
Dr R. M. Patterson

1842	Nos	To Amount brought forward		$284.68	2.697 83
		Paid Wm Smith	per recpt No. 98.	264.00	
		" James Edgar	" " " 100.	3.85	
		" Sellers & Pennock	" " " 106.	2.00	
		" J. P. Morris & Co	" " " 111.	198.92	753 45
March 31	440	" J. F. Girault	for Expenses incurred acct of the Mint		
" "	441	" Wm Whitney & others	Watching the Mint in March		193 22
" "	442	" W. Parks & W. S. Boyd	" Porter & Doorkeeper "	do	263 50
" "	443	" John H. Wielage	" Yard Laborer &c "	do	124 00
					62 00
					$4.094 00

U. S. Branch Mint New Orleans
Treasurer's Office March 31st 1842.

Recd May 24/42

Dr. The United States, in Account with H. C. Cammack, Treasurer of the Branch Mint New Orleans.
his Account of the ordinary receipts & expenditures for the quarter ending the 31st of March. 1842. Cr.

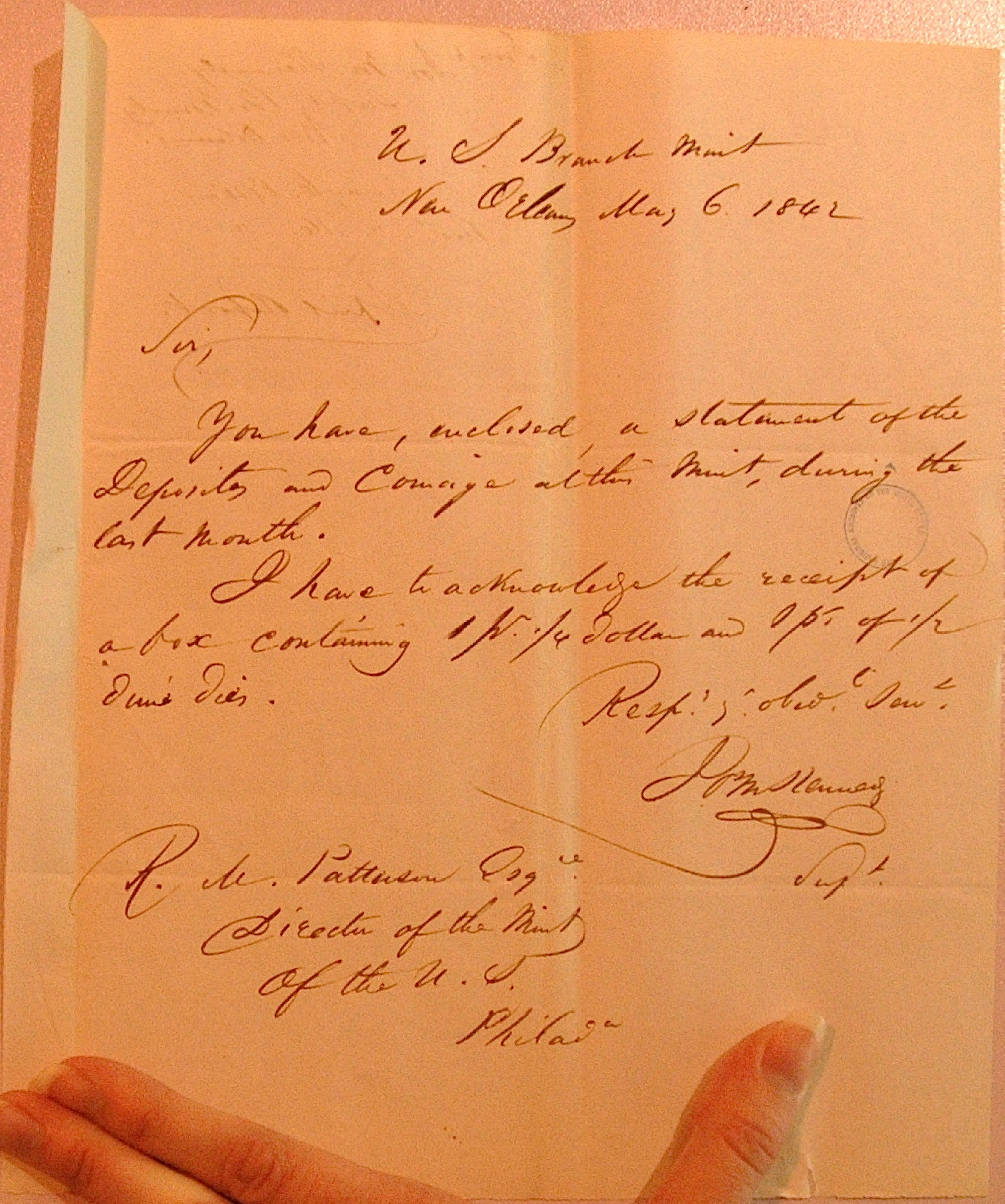
1842			Dollars	Cts
March	31	To Amount paid from the 1st of January to this date, inclusive, for the Incidental & Contingent expenses & repairs of the Mint.	4.094	00
"	"	" Amount paid for Wages of Labourers employed at the Mint.	5.074	24
"	"	" Amount paid for Salaries of the Officers & Clerks of the Mint. for the quarter ending this day.	3.225	00
"	"	" Balance to new account	504	02
			$12,897	26

1841			Dollars	Cts
Decr	31	By Balance remaining in the Treasurer's hands as per account rendered to this date	2.872	26
1842 Feby	26	" Amount of drafts of the Treasurer of the U. States No 215. for the Incidental & Conting. expenses & repairs of the Mint. Wages of Labourers. & Salaries of the Officers & Clerks.	10.025	00
			$12,897	26

U. S. Branch Mint New Orleans
Treasurer's Office March 31st 1842.

Dr. The United States, for the Incidental & Contingent expences & repairs of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, as paid to the following persons, from the 1st of January to the 31st of March 1842 inclusive, in pursuance of Warrants of the Superintendent of the marginal dates & numbers, Viz.

1842		Nos.			Dolls	Cts
Jany	11	405	To Day & Bennett	for Charcoal for Melting Dept.	35	00
"	12	406	" Benjn. Levy	" Stationary for the Mint	161	75
"	"	407	" Le Beau & Charbonnet	" Hardware for Melting Dept.	85	05
"	28	408	" David Felt & Co	" Stationary for the Mint	39	00
Feby	3	409	" Albert Eames 1	" Work in Coining Department	120	25
"	10	410	" E. Johns & Co	" Stationary for the Mint	41	38
"	"	411	" Zachary Hillman & Co	" Candles, Soap &c. for Melting dept.	97	05
"	11	412	" A. S. Trumbull	" Charcoal for Melting dept.	86	50
"	15	413	" Rieder & Co	" Paints, Oils &c. for Coining dept.	80	34
"	19	414	" F. E. Tarrant	" Neats foot Oil. do do	28	00
"	22	416	" Prague & Sherman	" Lumber for the Mint	200	09
"	23	417	" Hermann Wicke	" Charcoal, Melting department	56	25
March	1	420	" Wm. Whitney & Others	" Watching the Mint in Jany & Feby	501	50
"	"	421	" W. Parks & W. J. Boyd	" Porter & Doorkeeper . do . do	236	00
"	"	422	" John H. Wielage	" Day Watch &c. . do . do	118	00
"	2	423	" Anderson Young 2	" Carpenters work in Coining dept.	85	87
"	"	424	" Rufus Chandler 3	" Forging & Turning. do do	38	25
"	3	425	" Lucius Tyler 4	" Making one Sett of Troy weights	281	25
"	"	426	" Albert Eames 5	" Making Ingot moulds & repairing machinery	68	25
"	"	427	" James Pearson 6	" Blacksmiths work in Coining dept.	77	00
"	"	428	" George Tyler 7	" Dressing Ingot rolls &c. do do	35	00
"	4	429	" Layton & Co	" Hardware for Melting Dept.	226	05
"	31	437	" R. M. Patterson, Director, for expences incurred at Philadelphia for acct. of this Branch Mint, as per accompanying bills, Viz.			
			Paid H. G. Lipman,	per receipt No. 83. $ 4.00		
			" George Tyler	" " " 85. 12.00		
			" George Eckfeldt	" " " 87. 10.00		
			" Lucius S. Tyler	" " " 88. 36.00		
			" Timothy S. Dyer	" " " 89. 58.51		
			" Marshall & Brock	" " " 90. 25.50		
			" Prince Company	" " " 91. 24.00		
			" J. H. Amer	" " " 96. 84.57		
				Carried forward $254.68	$2,697	83



U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans May 6. 1842

Sir,

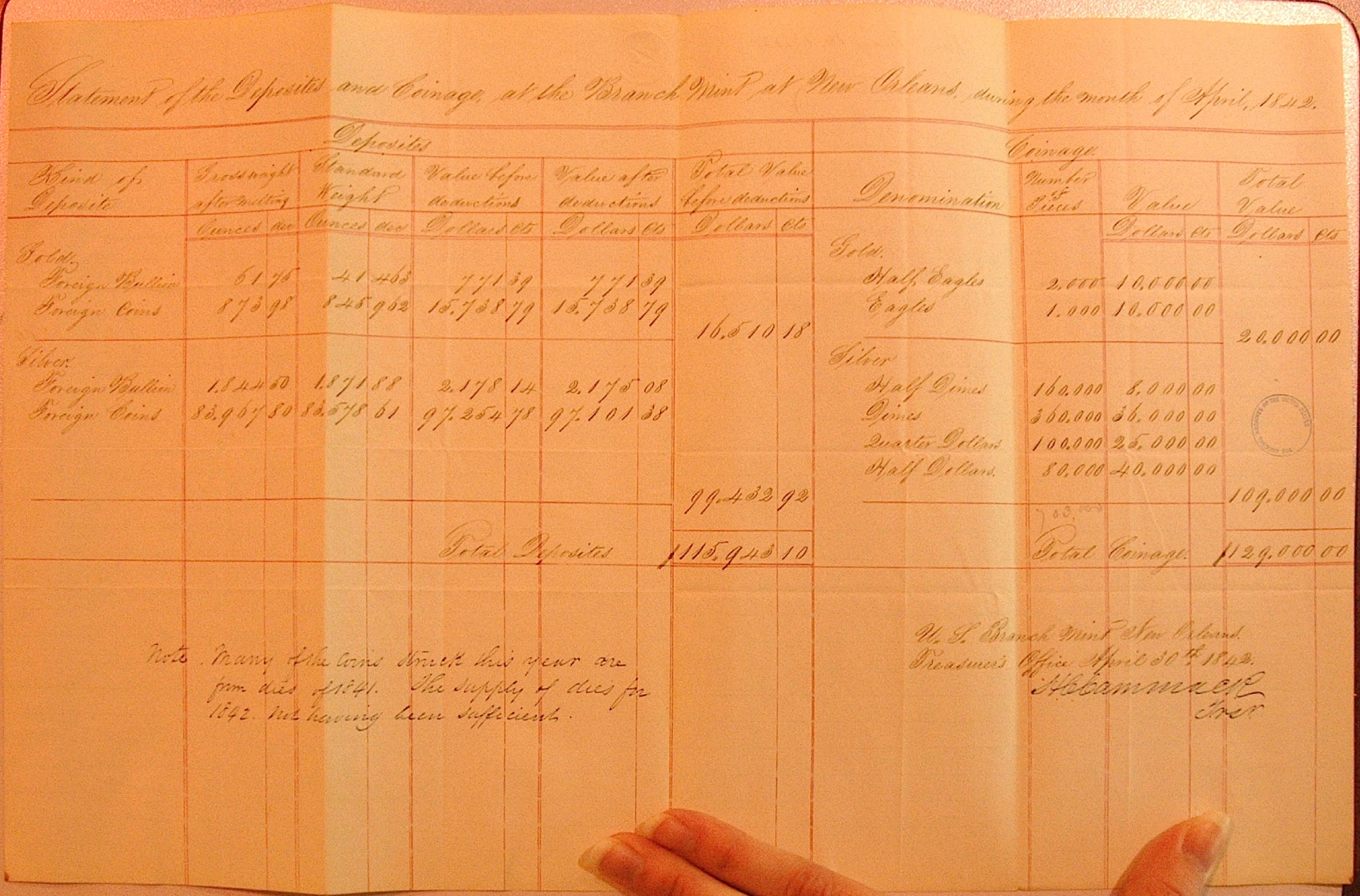
You have, enclosed, a statement of the Deposits and Coinage at this Mint, during the last month.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of a box containing 1 pr. 1/4 dollar and 1 pr. of 1/2 dime dies.

Respy. yr. obedt. Servt.

J M Kennedy
Supt.

R. M. Patterson Esqre.
Director of the Mint
Of the U. S.
Philada.



Statement of the Deposites and Coinage, at the Branch Mint at New Orleans, during the month of April, 1842.

Deposites											Coinage					
Kind of Deposite	Gross weight after melting		Standard Weight		Value before deductions		Value after deductions		Total Value before deductions		Denomination	Number of Pieces	Value		Total Value	
	Ounces	dec	Ounces	dec	Dollars	Cts	Dollars	Cts	Dollars	Cts			Dollars	Cts	Dollars	Cts
Gold.											Gold.					
Foreign Bullion	61	75	41	465	771	39	771	39			Half Eagles	2.000	10.000	00		
Foreign Coins	873	98	845	962	15.738	79	15.738	79			Eagles	1.000	10.000	00		
									16.510	18					20.000	00
Silver.											Silver					
Foreign Bullion	1.844	50	1.871	88	2.178	14	2.175	08			Half Dimes	160.000	8.000	00		
Foreign Coins	83.967	80	83.578	61	97.254	78	97.101	38			Dimes	360.000	36.000	00		
											Quarter Dollars	100.000	25.000	00		
											Half Dollars.	80.000	40.000	00		
									99.432	92					109.000	00
												703,000				
					Total Deposites				$115.943	10		Total Coinage.			$129.000	00

Note. Many of the coins struck this year are from dies of 1841. The supply of dies for 1842. not having been sufficient.

U. S. Branch Mint New Orleans.
Treasurer's Office April 30th 1842.
H. Cammack
Trsr

(Vide 126 Auditor
March 21.)

Mint of the United States
May 5th, 1842.

Sir,

Your letter of the 31st of March was received by me on the 12th ult., and my answer has been deferred from a desire of obtaining further information as to the true value of the sweep sent by Dr. Riddell to Mr. Greenfield.

Some time ago Mr. Greenfield called upon me, and without having heard any thing of our assay of the sweep in question, told me that he had been disappointed in the result of his operations upon it; and made the following statement of his own assay.

"In 2 oz. Avoir. of the sweep, he found 4.20 grs. of metal, corresponding to 33.60 in a lb. avoir., and to 346 oz. troy in the whole sweep. Of this 17 oz. was gold; leaving 329 oz. silver."

Hence there was of Std. silver, 365.555 oz = $425.37
" gold 18.889 " = 351.42
776.79

At the same time Mr. Greenfield left with me a specimen of this sweep, which was fluxed down by Dr. McClintock, and the button assayed by Mr. Eckfeldt. It was thus found, that 10 oz. Troy yielded 1210.5 milligrammes fine silver
69.5 " " gold.

Hence, in whole sweep, of standard silver, 311.86 oz = $362.89
" gold 16.109 " 333.00
695.89

You will recollect that the assay of Dr. Riddell and Hort gave

Of ~~pure~~ Standard silver 411. oz = $478.25
" gold 18.65 " = 346.97
825.22

The assay made by Dr. McClintock and Mr. Eckfeldt of the specimen sent to us by Dr. Riddell, gave

Of Standard silver 376.39 oz = $437.98
" gold 17.138 318.85
756.83

Now although these assays do not agree very well with one another, I think there is good reason to believe, from their comparison, that there was an overvaluation of the silver ~~made~~ ✗ in that made at New Orleans, and I would recommend that the final settlement be made on the ground of Mr. Eckfeldt's estimate of $437.98, — leaving the gold to stand as at present, ~~as~~ since it is undisputed by Mr. Greenfield. ~~Or a still~~ This would make it necessary to return $40.27. ✗ Or a still more unexceptionable and liberal course would be to take Mr. Greenfield's own estimate, and to return to him $48.43. — It is of great importance for our future transactions, and our present reputation, that ~~all~~ no doubt should exist of our determination to do exact justice. — This matter is now fully before you; and I am sure you ~~will~~ all desire to act with liberality as well as ~~justly~~ good faith in regard to it.

As it appears from Mr. Riddell's letter to you that the whole amount of sweeps kept back is of too small amount to ✗ call for a special remittance to New York ~~for refining~~ to be refined, I would consent that it lie over, if such be the wish of Dr. Riddell.

As to the "gold used to pay for smelting silver," Dr. Riddell has obtained his interpretation of my meaning from the wrong paragraph of my letter of the 25th of January. — In that letter I say that in Dr. Riddell's statement and estimate, sent with your letter of the 4th of November, "he has made all the gold, valued at $535.80, to go toward paying for the smelting of the silver, whereas this gold should have been appropriated to diminish the gold wastage, after paying its just proportion of the cost of smelting."

Now this is a very important item in Dr. Riddell's account. It is the evident intention, and has been the constant interpretation of the law, that the wastage of gold and the wastage of silver should be accounted for separately. The allowance for a limit of wastage is stated in the 23d sect. of the act of Jan. 18, 1837, as "not to exceed two thousandths of the whole amount of gold and silver, respectively, that had been delivered to [the Melter & Refiner] by the Treasurer." And, in the 29th sect., the allowances for gold and for silver are different.

I believe that you have in my former letter on this ~~long~~ subject, and in the present, all the views that are necessary to enable you to make out such an account as may be acted upon favorably at Washington. I shall be most happy when I learn that this settlement, so long and so unhappily delayed, has been finally closed.

To enable you to present a just and acceptable account, I will here mention the opinions which I gave to the Auditor upon Dr. Riddell's claims.

1st. I ~~have~~ expressed my opinion in favor of the demand "that the wastage be made full for 1840, in lieu of an item of 300 oz of that account since rescinded."

2d. I ~~have~~ expressed my opinion against the allowance of a second wastage on "the amount of 37,695.30 oz of silver delivered from the Melter & Refiner Dec. 31, 1840, and redelivered to him the next day."

3d. I ~~have~~ gave ~~given~~ my opinion in favor of allowing Dr. Riddell for the cost of smelting Mr. Maxwell's sweep, which he had received at its full gross value. The price of smelting, however, to

be estimated at $7.50 pr cwt., and not at $8, as asked by Dr. Riddell.

4th. I ~~have stated~~ made the following statement to the Auditor. ~~that~~ "The sweep which was sent to New York to be refined contained a certain proportion of gold, the value of which Dr. Riddell set apart to serve toward paying the cost of smelting, so as to increase the available balance of silver. This course is objectionable. The gold account and the silver account must each stand by itself; and therefore the net amount of the gold extracted from the sweep must be used to diminish the gold wastage claimed on the account as it now stands, while the net amount of silver from the sweep will be lessened to the same extent."

5th. I mentioned to the Auditor the impression, which I then entertained, that Dr. Riddell had still an amount of sweep in his possession the proceeds from which might modify his account very favorably. — In this, it now appears that I was mistaken.

In answer to my First letter to the Auditor, he says: ~~that~~ "Agreeably to your suggestion, I will let the subject [of Dr. Riddell's account] lie over for the present, relying on you to give such instructions to the Superintendent of the Branch Mint at New Orleans, as will cause the various matters and questions, in regard to occurrences that have happened, to be properly adjusted, and prevent all difficulty for the future. When you shall have come to a satisfactory conclusion, please inform this office."

Now I can give nothing more, in this matter, than the general principles on which the account is to be made up, and this I have done. I hope that ~~the account~~ it may now be remodelled, and presented to the department without ~~fu~~ delay. It is delay which has put you, and me, and all concerned, to so much trouble in making this settlement. And yet there is no other real difficulty presented, than the fact that the wastage has exceeded the limit of allowance. ~~and that there seems to have been a false impression idea that this evil can be remedied by procrastination.~~ When such an event occurs, it is to be lamented indeed, but the law is explicit as to the consequences. The ~~officer~~ responsible officer must pay the difference.

In your letter of the 31st of March, you send me two assayers' certificates, and ask me whether it is legitimate to reject part of a melt, and accept another part. — I answer that where

large pots are used, as at your Mint, the ingots ~~cast~~ should be kept in parcels, according to the order in which they are cast, and assays made of each parcel. It will often happen that some of these parcels may be ~~received, and some~~ within the allowed limit of standard, and some not. I see no objection, then, to receiving the first, and rejecting the last. During the short time that we made these large melts, we were obliged to follow this course; and the necessity of doing so was one of the reasons for our returning to the practice of making small melts. Our other reasons were, that the ~~large~~ ~~ca~~ casting from large pots was more laborious and painful to the men, — required the constant attention of the ~~officer~~ Melter & the Assayer, — gave much more serious inconvenience when a melt failed, — ~~and~~ showed, on careful trial, no saving in the consumption of fuel, — and was believed to give rise to more wastage.

In answer to a question proposed by you, I have to state, that the selection of the ingots to be assayed is always made by the Assayer, either in person, or by his workman acting under his instructions.

R. M. P.
Dr
P.S. over

To/ Jos. M. Kennedy, Esq.
Sup. Br. Mint
N. Orleans

P.S. We sent to you, thro' the Sec. of Treas., the following dies:

April 26. 1 pr. dime dies
2 pr. ½ doll. "
30. 1 pr. ½ doll. "
1 " dime "
May 4. 1 " ½ doll. "
5 1 " ½ doll. "

To/
Jos. M. Kennedy,
Supt. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

May. 5-6. 1842.

May 1842

New Orleans Sweep.

Weight 4946 lbs. avoir. — agrees with Mr. Greenfield's weighings at New York.

Dr. Hort's & Dr. Riddell's assay. — See Jan. 21 / Mch 10

In 5 oz. (Avoir.?) 727 milligrammes fine silver
33 " " gold

Hence, — in whole sweep, — 369.9 oz. tr. fine silver = 411 std. oz.
" 16.785 " " " gold = 18.65 "
Value of silver — — $ 478.25
" " gold — — 346.97.

Mr. Eckfeldt's assay, of specimen of same sweep sent on by Dr. Riddell. (See letter by me to Mr. Kennedy of March 10/42.)

In 10 oz. Troy, 1460.5 milligrammes fine silver.
66.5 " " gold.

Hence, in whole sweep, 338.75 oz. tr. fine silver = 376.39 std. oz.
" 15.424 " " " gold = 17.138 "
Value of silver — — $ 437.98
" " gold — — 318.85

Mr. Greenfield's assay — reported to me Ap. 13/42.

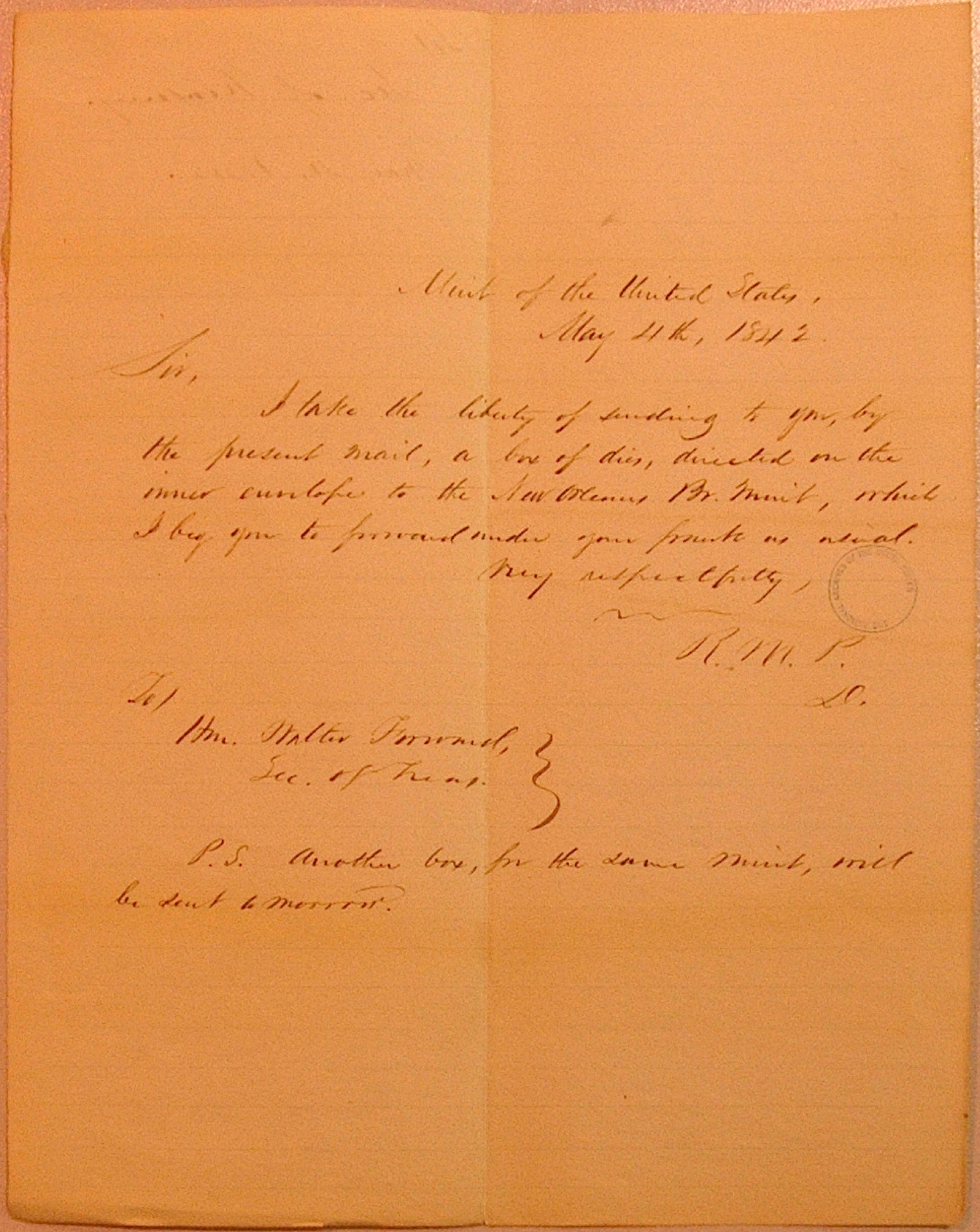
In 2 oz. avoir., there were 4.20 grs. of metal, corresponding to 33.60 in a lb., and to 346 oz. troy in the whole sweep. Of this 17 oz. was gold, leaving of silver 329 oz.

Hence St. oz. of silver = 365.555 value $ 425.37
" " gold 18.889 " 357.42

Mr. Eckfeldt's assay of specimen of this sweep left with me by Mr. Greenfield.

In 10 oz. Troy, 1210.5 milligrammes fine silver
69.5 " " gold.

Hence in whole sweep 280.673 oz. fine silver = 311.86 st. oz.
16.109 " " gold = 17.899 "
Value of silver — — $362.89
" gold — — 333.00



Mint of the United States,
May 4th, 1842.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending to you, by the present mail, a box of dies, directed on the inner envelope to the New Orleans Br. Mint, which I beg you to forward under your frank as usual.

Very respectfully,

R. M. P.

D.

To/
Hon. Walter Forward,
Sec. of Treas.

P.S. Another box, for the same Mint, will be sent to-morrow.

Mint U. States,
April 20. 1842.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending to you, by the present mail, a box of dies for the New Orleans Mint, which I pray you to forward, as directed on the inner envelope, under your frank.

R. M. P.
Director.

To/
Sec. of Treas.

Mint of the U. S.
April 26. 1842.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending to you, by the present mail, a box of dies, directed on the inner envelope to the Supt. of the N. Orleans Br. Mint, which I pray you to forward, under your frank, as heretofore.

R. M. P.
D.
per G. F. D.
D. C.

To
Hon. W. Forward,
Sec. of Treas.

Mint U.S.
April 25, 1842.

Sir, *

I have this morning received your letter of the 16th inst., in which you state that you have drawn on me for the balance reported as in my hands on the 1st, viz. $3132.88. I regret that you have felt yourself under the necessity of doing so, as the balance in my hands now is reduced to $3,100.38 and there are outstanding bills unpaid amounting to $88.13.

When I found that Congress had thrown out the whole appropriations for Contingent expenses of the Mint and Branches, I took immediate measures for ~~remedying~~ having them replaced in a less objectionable form, and under a less objectionable name; and, on the 20th inst., a bill was reported to the House, by the Committee of Ways & Means, which, as to your Mint, makes the following provision.

"No. 35. For Coinage Expenses, including materials and implements, fuel, repairs, and wastage of gold and silver, at the New Orleans Branch Mint, — — — — — — — $11,052

"For House Expenses, including water rent and taxes, repairs, lighting, cleaning, and watching, — — — — — — — 3,598

I send above a bill of lading of articles shipped on the 9th inst., which I will thank you to hand to Mr. Kennedy

"For Office Expenses, including stationery and postage, — — — — — — — — 350."

The total appropriation for your incidental and contingent expenses is therefore $15,000.

The estimates, as I presented them, were

Coinage expenses,	$12,600
House expenses,	4,000
Office expenses,	500
	$17,100

The whole amount corresponded to ~~yr~~ the estimate which you furnished to me. The division under the several heads, I made according to the best of my judgment, formed from our experience at here.

R. M. P.
Dr

To/
W. C. Cammack, Esq.
Treasurer of Branch Mint,
New Orleans.

P. S. — Of the sum which I have included under "bills unpaid", there is an amount of $20, held under the following notice given to me in your letter of the 4th of Janʸ last. —

"Mr. Tyler has also deposited $20, which amount you will please hold subject to his order."

Now, no such order has yet been received, and inquiry has been made respecting it, by Mr. Rufus Tyler, with some anxiety. Be so good as to inform Mr. Tyler of this circumstance.

ARCHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES

Branch Mint New Orleans
Treasurer's office 19. April 1842.

Sir

I addressed you a few days ago & then advised having drawn on you for $3132.88. which amount is not the correct one. The bill is for 3082.88 which seems to be the correct balance in your hands to my credit.

In your account you charge me, 31 March $200 paid Mrs L. M. Moore on my order. The order is for $250. and I presume that the mistake has been made in charging the sum to me. If you have paid only 200$ please advise me and I can arrange the difference with Dr Hort here.

I am
Very respectfully
Your faithful friend
A. J. Cammack
Treasurer

Amount of your Balance
to my Credit $ 3132.88
deduct short charged
on draft favor Mrs Moore — 50.–
$ ~~3138.88~~ Error
3,082.88 – Bal.

To
Dr R. M. Patterson
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia.

ARCHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES

Mint U. S. April 16th, 1842.

Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 14th inst., in which you ask my opinion as to the propriety of increasing the penalty in the bond of the Treasurer of the New Orleans Branch Mint.

The sum in which the Treasurer of ~~the~~ Philadelphia Mint is bound is fixed by the act of Jan 18, 1837, at $10,000, and this amount was also ~~made~~ ~~the~~ originally selected as the penalty in the bond of the treasurer of New Orleans ~~Branch Mint~~ Mint. ~~Some~~ Difficulties soon occurred in this Branch, in which the Treasurer Mr. Edm. Forstall, was somewhat involved, principally through one of his clerks, and it was judged prudent to increase the penalty to $20,000. I am not now aware of any particular circumstances that call ~~[illegible]~~ for a still larger amount of security, ~~but as I see from your communication, that you deem unless it be that the institution may probably be soon called upon to wind up its affairs, but as you~~ but if you ~~judge~~ think it expedient and proper to do so, I ~~have no doubt it will~~ will freely ~~give my consent,~~ ~~permit you in~~ to declare my "satisfaction" in the treasurer, as required by the 3d Sect. of the act of March 3, 1835, and I have no doubt that the additional security will be promptly given.

R. M. P.
Le

To
Hon. Walter Forward,
~~Levi Woodbury~~
Sec. of Treasury.

Branch Mint New Orleans 16 April 42

Sir

I received yesterday your letter of the 5th April instant covering your account current with this Branch Mint to the 1st instant, Shewing balance in my favor of $3132.88 Say Thirty One hundred Thirty two dollars Eighty Eight Cents.

All of the money which has lately gone into your hands on account of this Mint, belongs to the Bullion account which I am anxious to replace in our vaults here, and having no funds whatever on hand belonging to the Contingent account and the amount of appropriations in Washington being exhausted I have been Compelled to draw on you for the balance named above which please to pay on my bill in favor of W. C. Leverich Cashr. Bank of Louisiana

For the sum used by you, out of the Bullion sent you, to pay some bills for this Mint, I shall have to make an advance myself unless the Ho of Representatives in Congress retrace their Steps in Striking out the appropriation for incidental expences for our branch from this year. This is particularly unfortunate at this time as we have many

Small

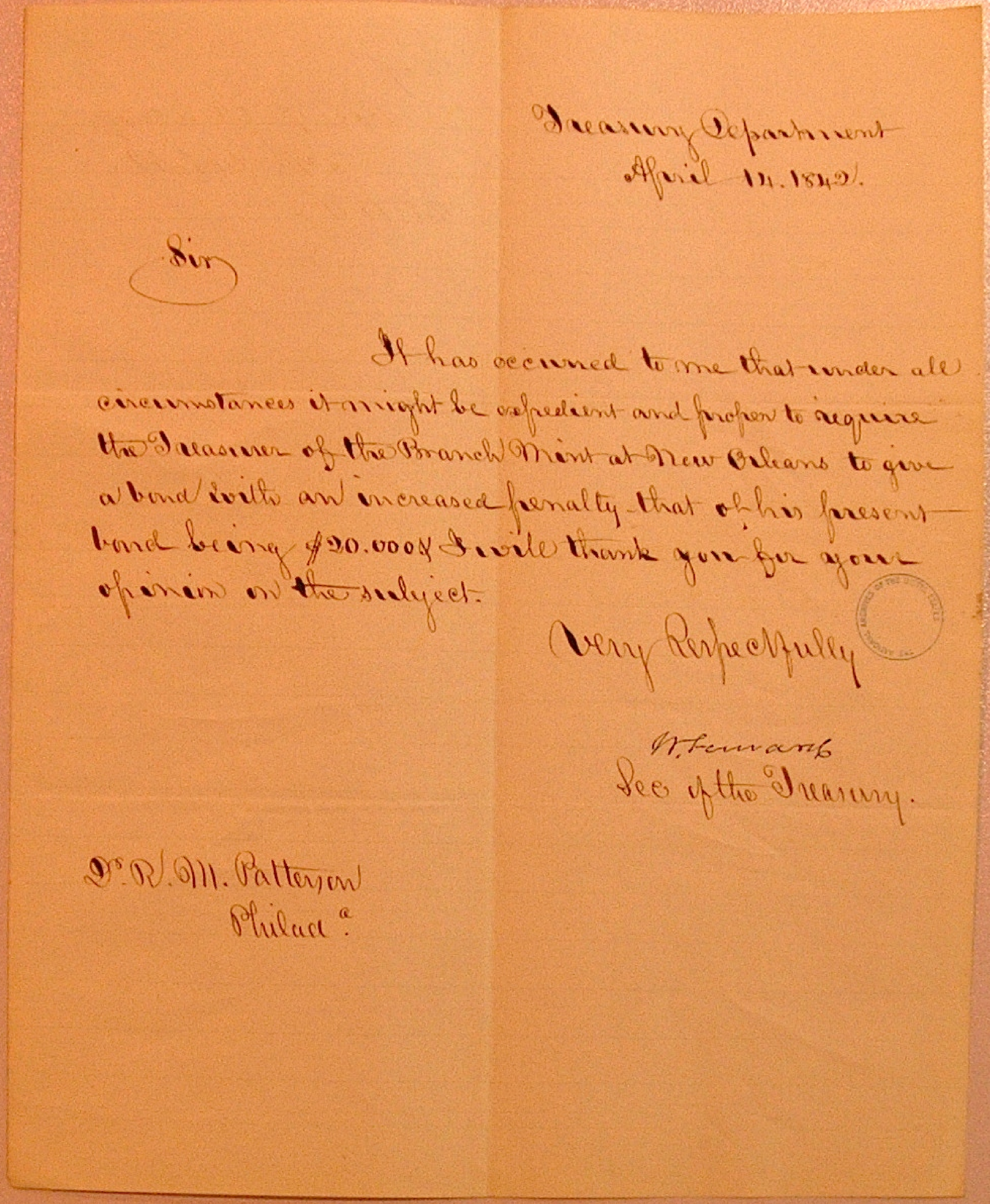
bills unpaid and are in want of Coal and some other articles without which the operations cannot be continued

The result of the Melt of Dollars forwarded to you makes me somewhat doubt the opinions which I have heretofore entertained in respect to the fineness of Mexican Dollars.

I am
with much respect
Your very faithful Servt
A. C. Cammack
Treasr

To Dr R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philadelphia

ARCHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES



Treasury Department
April 14. 1842.

Sir

It has occurred to me that under all circumstances it might be expedient and proper to require the Treasurer of the Branch Mint at New Orleans to give a bond with an increased penalty that of his present bond being $20.000 & I will thank you for your opinion on the subject.

Very Respectfully

W. Forward
Sec of the Treasury.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Philada.

Mr. Greenfield — Apr. 12/42.

Weight of N.O. Sweep 4946 lbs. — corresponding with N.O. report

Assay of 2 oz. avoir. = yielded 4.20 gr. of metal, corresponding to 33.60 in lb. —

4946 × 33.6 = 166185.6 gr = 346 oz. Troy.
Of this there are of gold 17 oz
Leaving of silver — 329.

Gold corresponds — Silver falls short. —
N.O. report is 411 st. oz silver = 369.9 fine
Diff. — 40.9 in defect

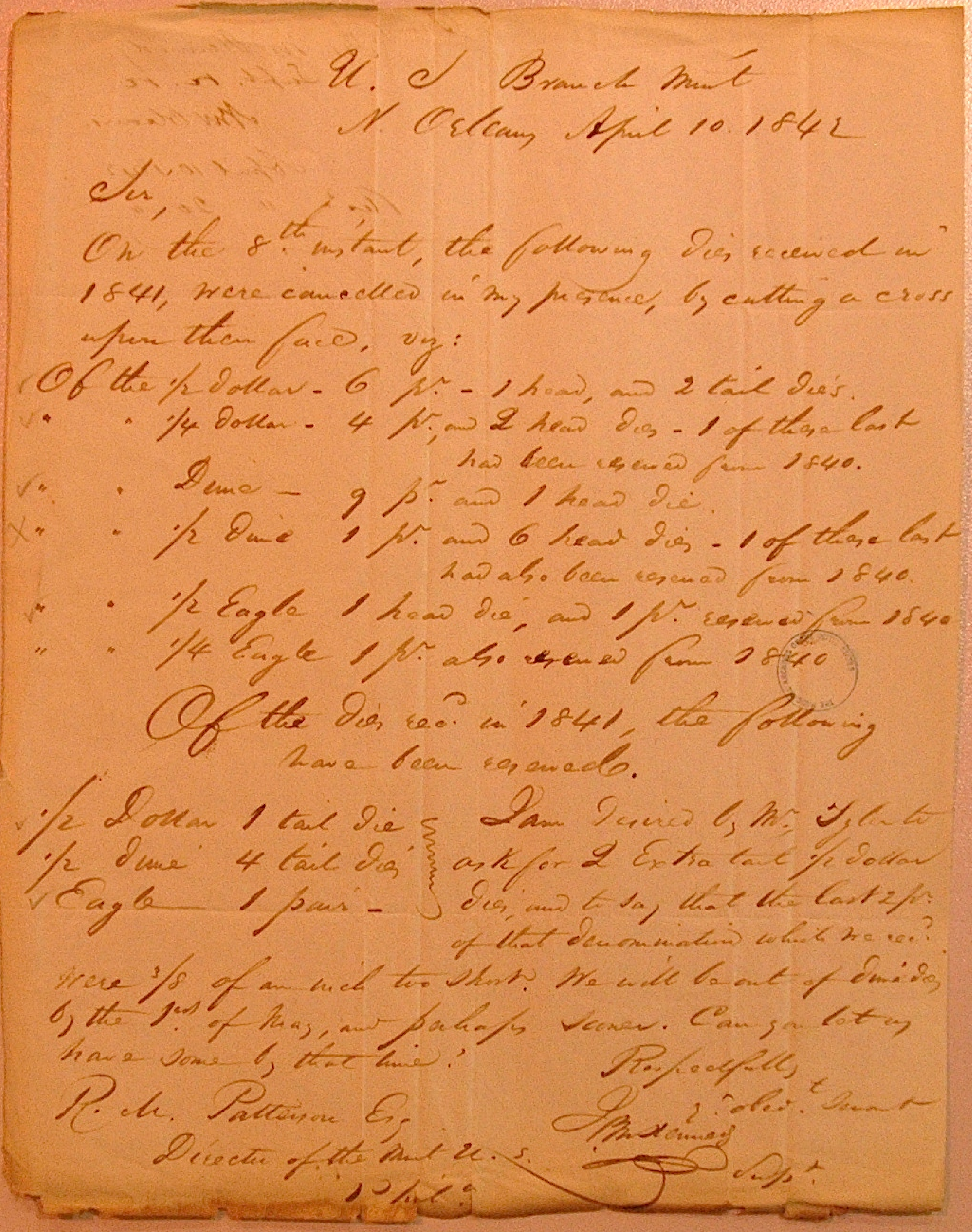
Mr. Greenfield have two pounds of the sweep to be assayed. — They are probably more dry & lighter now. —

Apr. 18th. — Mr. Eckfeldt found 10 oz. of this sweep to yield
1210 ½ milligrammes of silver }
69 ½ " gold }

giving 280.673 oz. silver in 4946 lbs. }
and 16.109 " gold " }

40.90
1 29 21
40.90
818
368
8
4
$52.88
68.39
$15.51

For results of the four different assays of this Sweep, see May 5th, 1842.



U. S. Branch Mint
N. Orleans April 10. 1842

Sir,

On the 8th instant, the following dies received in 1841, were cancelled in my presence, by cutting a cross upon their face, viz:

Of the ½ dollar - 6 pr. - 1 head, and 2 tail dies.
✓ " ¼ dollar - 4 pr., and 2 head dies - 1 of these last had been reserved from 1840.
✓ " Dime - 9 pr. and 1 head die.
✗ " ½ Dime 1 pr. and 6 head dies - 1 of these last had also been reserved from 1840.
✓ " ½ Eagle 1 head die, and 1 pr. reserved from 1840
" " ¼ Eagle 1 pr. also reserved from 1840

Of the dies recd. in 1841, the following have been reserved.

✓ ½ Dollar 1 tail die
½ Dime 4 tail dies
✓ Eagle 1 pair -

I am desired by Mr. Tyler to ask for 2 Extra tail ½ dollar dies, and to say that the last 2 pr. of that denomination which we recd. were 3/8 of an inch too short. We will be out of Dime dies by the 1st. of May, and perhaps sooner. Can you let us have some by that time?

Respectfully
Yr. obedt. Servant
J. M. Kennedy
Supt.

R. M. Patterson Esq.
Director of the Mint U. S.
Phila.

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans April 6. 1842

Sir,

I enclose the statement of our operations for March. The whole of the silver bullion deposited for Coinage in February, was, as you supposed, Foreign, the term "American" having been erroneously used by the Weigh master.

Respectfully,
yr obedt. Servant
Jo. M. Kennedy
Supt.

R. M. Patterson Esq
Director of the Mint
Of the U. S.
Philada.

Statement of the Deposites & Coinage, at the Branch Mint at New Orleans, during the month of March, 1842.

Deposites

Kind of Deposite	Grossweight after melting		Standard Weight		Value before deductions		Value after deductions		Total Value before deductions	
	Ounces	dec	Ounces	dec	Dollars	Cts	Dollars	Cts	Dollars	Cts
Gold.										
U. S. Bullion	81	58	56	885	1.616	45	1.616	28		
Foreign Bullion	228	96	208	349	3.876	21	3.876	21		
Foreign Coins	312	34	308	290	5.735	57	5.735	57		
									11,228	23
Silver										
Foreign Bullion	1.106	50	1.101	80	1.282	07	1.279	10		
Foreign Coins	153.232	90	152.585	11	177.553	27	177.454	06		
									178,835	34
					Total Deposites				$190,063	57

Coinage.

Denomination	Number of pieces	Value		Total Value.	
		Dollars	Cts	Dollars	Cts
Gold.					
Quarter Eagles	2,800	7.000	00		
				7.000	00
Silver					
Dimes	450.000	45.000	00		
Quarter Dollars	172.000	43.000	00		
Half Dollars	96.000	48.000	00		
				136.000	00
	720,800				
	Total Coinage			$143.000	00

ARCHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES

U. S. Branch Mint New Orleans
Treasurer's Office March 31st 1842.
H. Cammack
Treasurer.

U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans March 31. 1842.

Sir,

I have laid before Dr. Riddell your letter of the 10th instant, which, in consequence of several successive failures of the mail, I did not receive until some time after it was due. That of the 18th instant, stating the course taken by you upon the subject of his account, has also been communicated to him. I have just received from him, and now enclose, the explanations necessary to enable you finally to close his account.

I acknowledge the receipt of 4 boxes containing 2 pr. of ½ dollar, 1 pr. of ¼ dollar, 2 prs of dime, and 2 pr. of ½ dime dies. The old ones shall now be cancelled without delay.

You will find herein 2 assayer's certificates showing the rejection of a portion of melts 103 and 105. Please return them, and inform me, at the same time, if, in such cases, the whole melt should be rejected. I will thank you also to let me know by what officer, or officers, the assay ingots should be selected.

I send herewith a bill of lading for two boxes, containing a set of weights, made by one of Mr. Tyler's workmen, for the use of the Treasurer's Office - We wish you to have them adjusted for us.

Respectfully,

Your obedient Servant

J. McManus

Supt

R. M. Patterson Esqre

Director of the Mint

of the U. S.

Philada.

Branch Mint New Orleans
March 31st 1842.

J. M. Kennedy Esq.
Superintendant
Sir

You this day handed me Dr. Patterson's letter of the 18th. inst. with the verbal request that I would immediately furnish you with such explanations and remarks as the case required. This I proceed to do.

1st. In my letter to you of the 29th. inst. I have said, I think, all I can with propriety say respecting "the difficulties as to the sweep sent on." I will only add, that although I have the utmost confidence in Dr. Hart's assay as reported, I shall be satisfied with anything Dr. Patterson may think proper to do, in respect to the different values found there and here.

2nd. "The sweep kept back."

Near the first of January" I made rude assays of two parcels of sweep — now in my custody.

5 oz. Avoird. of one yielded scant $\frac{4}{100}$ oz Troy of fine metal.
5 oz " of the other " nearly $\frac{2}{100}$ oz Troy " " "

The samples had lain by about a month, when I hastily put up a few ounces of the first, and sent it to Dr. M. Clintock by Anthony Salmon. I had but a few minutes for writing before Anthony left, and I was under the misapprehension that I was sending the poorer instead of the richer sample. My assay in fact corresponds well enough with that of the parent mint, though I did not part for gold. The nett amount of all the sweep kept back, disregarding the gold, was $112.68. In connection with this matter, I will remind you, that you considered yourself justified by instructions from the Director, in refusing to receive in settlement any estimate of silver in iron pots, or alloyed with lead, or in unrecovered grains, or in sweep not actually ready for shipment:— and you are aware that on the 4th November and 21st December 1841, I advanced from my own purse a large amount to represent these items, and also to make up an actual deficiency beyond wastage limits in my silver account.

3rd. "The gold used to pay for Smelting,"
The following quotation from the Director's letter to you of 25th January, will, I suppose, more definitely shew his meaning. "In Dr. Riddell's statement of October 30th, the gold found in the whole sweep (including Maxwell's) was appropriated to pay for the refining only of Dr. Riddell's sweep. Is this the case in the statement of January 1st.?"

The assay certificate of Maxwell's Sweep shews that it contained 700th of silver, but no mention is made of gold. Nor do I imagine there could have been present any amount of gold worth reporting. For during the whole time he was melter and refiner of this mint, he cast of gold ingots 4.034$\frac{883}{1000}$ Ounces. While during the years 1840 & 1841 I cast of approved gold ingots — — — 40.748$\frac{166}{1000}$ Ounces, besides making many failures, and perplexing myself much with refining and toughening.

Hence I should naturally have had more than ten times as much gold sweep as Maxwell.

Respectfully
Your Obedient Servant
J. L. Riddell
Melter & Refiner

The National Archives of the United States

The "explanations and remarks that the case required" were asked for by me several days before your letter of the 18th was recd.
Respy J. R. McK

Branch Mint New Orleans
March 29th 1842.

J. M. Kennedy Esq.
Superintendant

Sir,

Having before me Dr. Patterson's letter to you of the 10th inst, wherein he appears to doubt, whether we used Troy or avoirdupois ounces in the assay of our Sweep, I comply with your verbal request, by simply stating the fact.

The 5 ozs. of sweep, were avoirdupois ounces, and at the time, by counterbalancing the brass weight, a 4oz and a 1oz Avoir, with our standard Troy weights, I found them equal to $4\frac{57}{100}$ ozs. Troy. This would make the ounce avoird. as used by us, equal to $438\frac{72}{100}$ grains. These weights were therefore between $\frac{1}{4}$ and $\frac{1}{3}$ of one per cent. too heavy; which would cause an over estimate of the value of the whole sweep of about Two Dollars ($2.). Though I recorded the $4\frac{57}{100}$ at the time, I was not until this day aware the weights were too heavy

Respectfully Yours
Obt Servt
J. L. Riddell
Melter & Refin

New Orleans 31 March 1842.

Sir

I have received in due course your letter of the 9th instant with the result of the aſsay of two boxes containing halves of Mexican dollars which were sent to you by me.

The titles found here, of the Counterparts of these dollars, were 895. tho' the deposite 128., from which there were three melts, was reported 895.5 fine

This result accords with the opinions I have usually expressed respecting the titles of Mexican dollars as found at this Branch

By reports from Washington City I am sorry to find that we are likely to lose Mr Kennedy as our Superintendent. There seems however to be some hesitation on the part of the Senate in confirming the nomination made by the president as his successor: if it should not be confirmed the friends of Mr Kennedy hope that he will be retained in place

With much respect
I am your obedient
+ faithful servant
H. C. Cammack

ARCHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES

To Dr. R. M. Patterson
Philadelphia.

Mint of the United States,
March 22d, 1842.

Sir,

In your last monthly report you have the item, — "American silver bullion, 1283.75 oz." I am not aware of the existence of any United States silver ~~bullion~~ mine ~~or~~ that has been worked except that recently found in North Carolina, and I am confident that none of the bullion from this mine can have reached you. I ~~must~~ ~~am~~ therefore conclude ~~constrained to suppose~~ that ~~you~~ there must be ~~some~~ a mistake in your statement, and I have accordingly ~~placed the whole~~ united the amount to that of Foreign bullion, in my report to the Secy of Treas. I wish an explanation however from you, for if you have really had a deposite of U.S. Silver ~~bullion~~, it is an interesting fact, and ought to be made known.

I received, yesterday, a letter from the First Auditor, in answer to mine respecting Dr. Riddell's postage account, in which he says: — "Agreeably to your suggestion — — — — — — — — — — — — — Office." [Copy from Mr. Millers letter of 18th inst.]

R. M. P.
D. M.

To/ Jos. M. Kennedy Esq
Supt. Br. Mint
New Orleans

W. G. F. D.

Dear Sir

With a wish to facilitate Dr Hort in placing a small sum of money in Philadelphia, I have drawn on you for Two Hundred & Fifty Dollars, which you will be pleased to pay out of the proceeds of bullion forwarded to you for assay, and Coinage. It is understood by Dr Hort, that if from any cause the bullion shipped should not reach you, then the draft will be returned to me and the transaction annulled.

I am, Very Respectfully,
Your faithful Servant,
H C Cammack
Trsr

To Dr. R. M. Patterson,
Director U. S. Mint,
Philadelphia

dated March 19. 1842.

The National Archives of the United States

Mint U.S.
March 19 / 42.

Sir, +

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 6th inst., transmitting the monthly report of your operations for February.

I have already informed you of the boxes of dies sent on to you; the remaining dies are in preparation and will be forwarded in a few days.

My letter of yesterday will inform you of the course taken by me with regard to Dr. Riddell's communication to the Treasury Department respecting his claims on the wastage account. I did not state, however, that I had fully affirmed your opinion as to the double claim on the balance of bullion in his hands at the end of 1840.

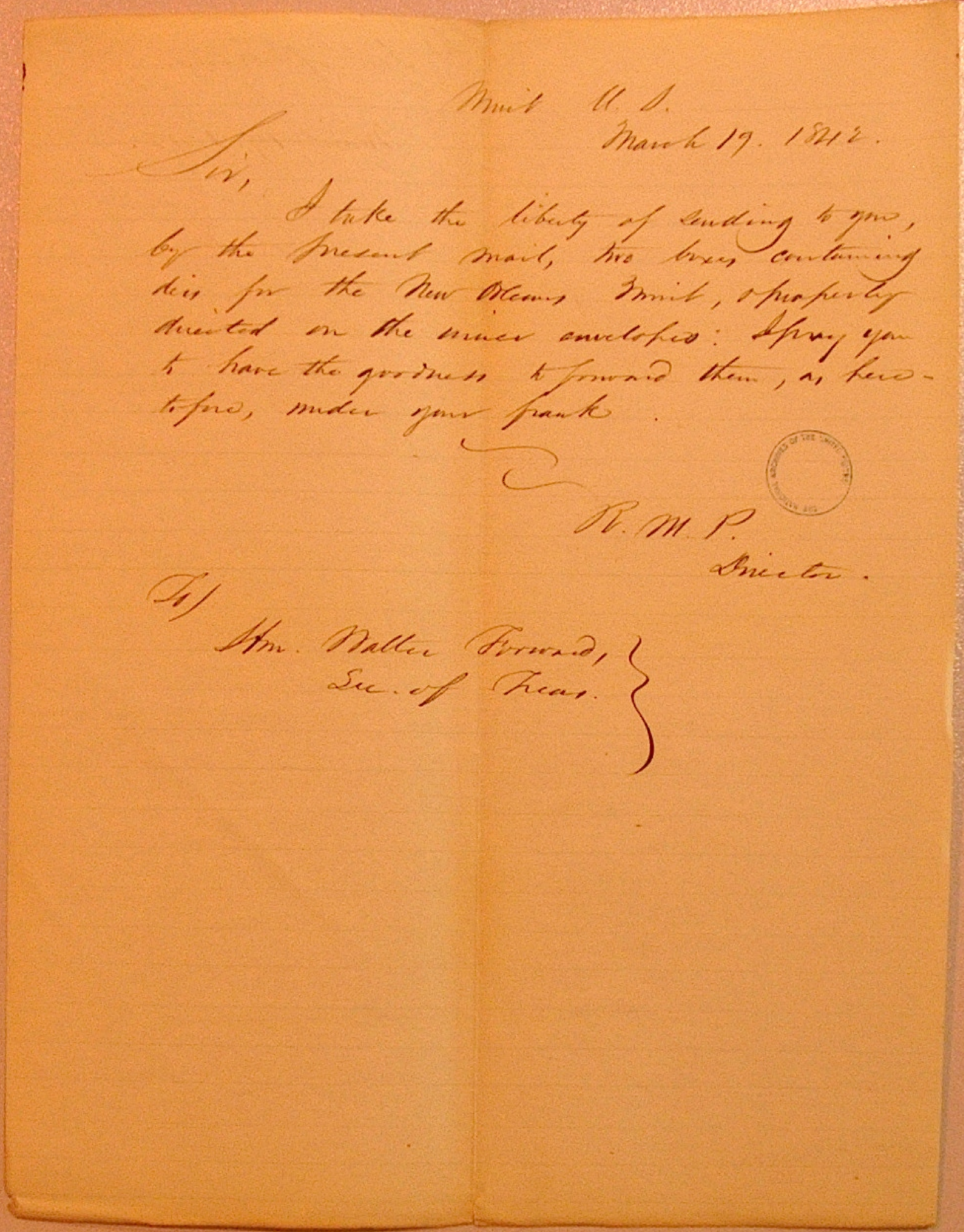
I wrote long since, on a suggestion received from one of your friends at New Orleans, to request information of the matter, if any steps were about to be taken upon the personal point mentioned in your postscript. I have heard nothing, however, and am therefore disposed to think that nothing has been done.

Please tell Mr. Cammack that his bill of lading of a second remittance of silver was duly received, and that insurance has been effected.

R. M. P. D.

Jos. M. Kennedy Esq.
Sup. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

P.S. By to-day's mail we send 2 pairs of half dollar dies.



Mint U. S.
March 19. 1842.

Sir,

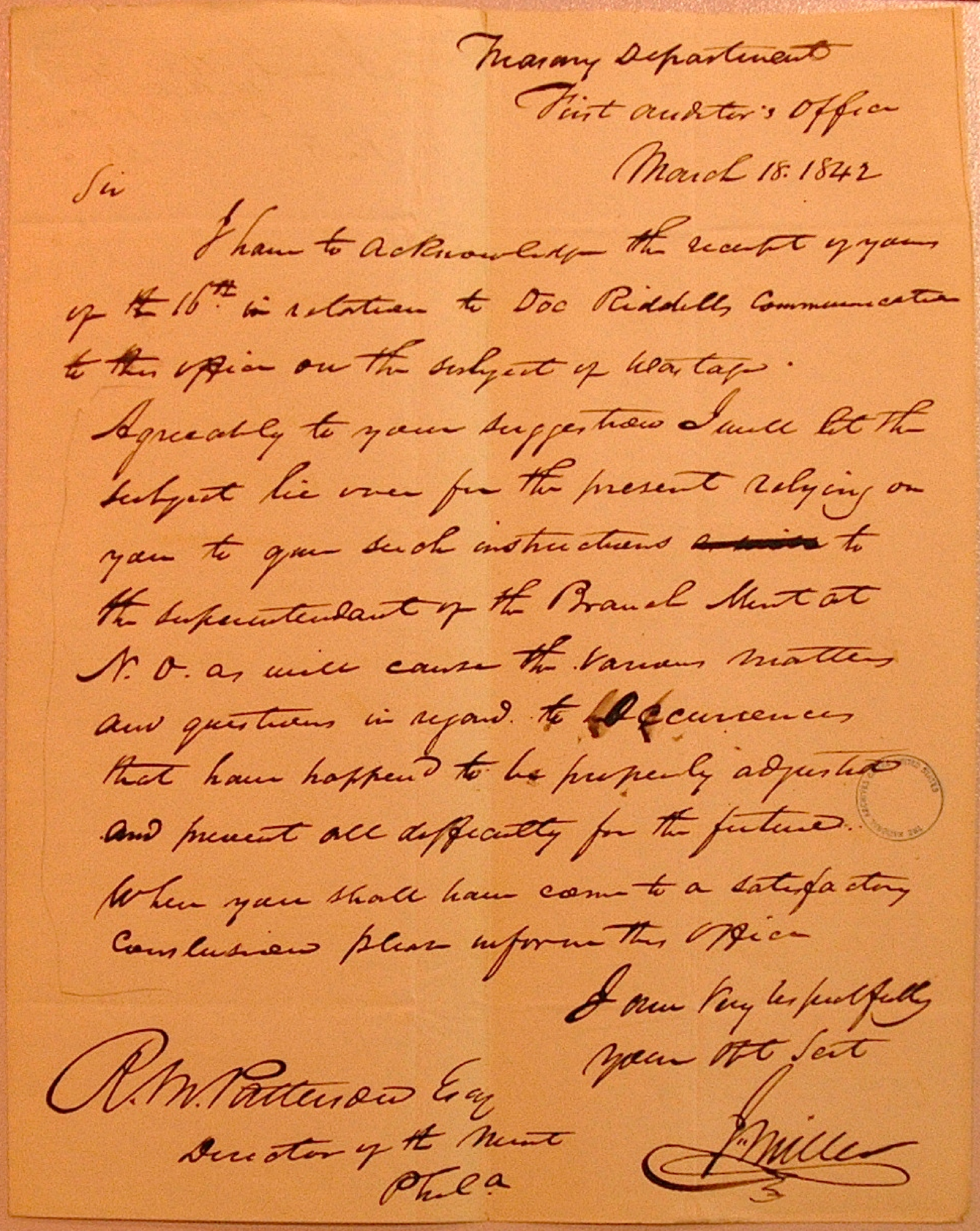
I take the liberty of sending to you, by the present mail, two boxes containing dies for the New Orleans Mint, & properly directed on the inner envelopes: I pray you to have the goodness to forward them, as heretofore, under your frank.

R. M. P.
Director.

To/

Hon. Walter Forward,
Sec. of Treas.

National Archives of the United States



Treasury Department
First Auditor's Office
March 18. 1842

Sir

I have to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 16th in relation to Doc Riddell's Communication to this office on the subject of Wastage.

Agreeably to your suggestion I will let the subject lie over for the present relying on you to give such instructions ~~as will~~ to the Superintendant of the Branch Mint at N. O. as will cause the various matters and questions in regard to occurrences that have happened to be properly adjusted and prevent all difficulty for the future. When you shall have come to a satisfactory Conclusion please inform this Office

I am very respectfully
your Obt Servt
J. Miller

R. M. Patterson Esq
Director of the Mint
Phila

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES

Mint U. S.
March 18, 1842

Sir,

Four days ago, I received, from the First Auditor of the Treasury, Dr. Riddell's communication to him on the subject of his postage account, with a request that I would give my views with regard to it. I have done so, in the most liberal spirit towards Dr. Riddell, for I have an anxious desire that this account should be settled. I have, however, mentioned the difficulties as to the sweeps sent on, and that ~~Saved~~ kept back, and the gold ~~unfit to~~ for smelters, which I stated to you in my letter of the 10th inst., and have suggested the propriety of ~~allowing the~~ suspending the settlement until these difficulties are removed. I write now, therefore, to show the importance of an early ~~and~~ answer to my letter of the 10th.

R. M. P.
Dr. M.

To/
Jos. M. Kennedy, Esq.
Supt. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

Mint U.S.
March 16th, 1842.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th inst., asking my views in relation to certain points, submitted to you by Dr. Riddell, the Melter & Refiner of the New Orleans Branch Mint, regarding his accounts, and particularly the claim which he makes for wastage.

~~There are~~ The ~~settlement~~ question of Dr. Riddell's accounts has given me great anxiety, and been the subject of much correspondence. ~~I have long urged and insisted upon a definite settlement, and have always been met by difficulties founded on actual balances in gold & silver, and not on estimates; yet three years have passed without such a settlement as~~ which ~~can be considered satisfactory~~ a conclusion. It is most desirable that ~~such~~ a ~~satisfactory conclusion~~ settlement should now be made, and, for this object, I would ~~yield~~ give ~~recommend~~ the most liberal consideration ~~of~~ to Dr. Riddell's claim ~~so as~~, ~~made~~

It is a ~~circumstance~~ fact much to be regretted that the wastage in the Melter's department has been ~~so large~~ very ~~large~~ great. Of the reasons which Dr. Riddell gives for it, ~~I can give~~ there is but one which which I can consider satisfactory, and that is — "want of experience." It is of little consequence, however, to look now to the causes: ~~the~~ it appears that the Superintendent, who has had

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~~full opportunities for investigation, is satisfied of the facts, and it appears, moreover, that~~

With the regard to the first claim, namely, "that the wastage be made full for 1840, in lieu of an item of 300 oz of that account since received," ~~I have given~~ my opinion is correctly quoted in Dr. Riddell's communication. ~~If~~ If there was a bona fide deficiency of silver, in 1840, to the full amount of the ~~wastage of silver~~ limit of allowance for wastage, ~~in 1841,~~ Dr. Riddell ought to have the protection granted by the 23d Sect. of the Act of 1837. He charged ~~it~~ a part of his deficiency to an ~~account~~ source to which he erroneously supposed it might be owing, and this part was disallowed, — but the ~~Superintendent saw~~ deficiency was not the less real on that account.

The second question has regard to ~~the amount~~ an ~~delivery made to~~ amount of 37,695.30 oz. of silver delivered from the Melter & Refiner to the Treasurer Dec. 31, 1840, and redelivered to the Melter & Refiner the next day, Jan. 1, 1841. On this silver, ~~the officer received or now claims~~ the allowance for wastage is claimed twice, namely for 1840 and in 1841. ~~in 1840, and he again submits the same claim for 1841.~~ — This question has not ~~never~~ occurred at the Parent Mint, because the limit of wastage has never been approached in the accounts of our Melter & Refiner; but the true intention of the law is abundantly evident; for it is framed on the supposition that the ~~the~~ wastage is ~~supposed to be~~ proportional to the quantity of metal which is subjected to the Mint operations;

~~Now the silver under consideration was delivered to the Melter & Refiner in the course of 1840. At the end of the year it was returned to the Treasurer, not as a regular delivery of ingots, but merely to~~ and it would be ~~improper therefore~~ inconsistent with ~~the~~ its spirit ~~of the law~~ that wastage should be allowed twice on the same ~~delivery~~ metal, without its having been twice ~~been~~ subjected to these operations. I would therefore affirm the decision of the Superintendent ~~as~~ to this point.

The last question respects a charge which was made against Dr. Riddell for the whole gross value of ~~the sweep~~ Mr. Maxwell's sweep, when it passed into his hands; whereas he should really have been charged only with its net value, after deducting the ~~charge~~ cost of smelting. I have no doubt of the exact justice of this claim, and would only remark that the ~~amount charge~~ sum lately paid for smelting the parcel of New Orleans sweep, ~~behind~~ ~~to~~ which included that of Mr. Maxwell, was $7.50 per Cwt., and not $8.

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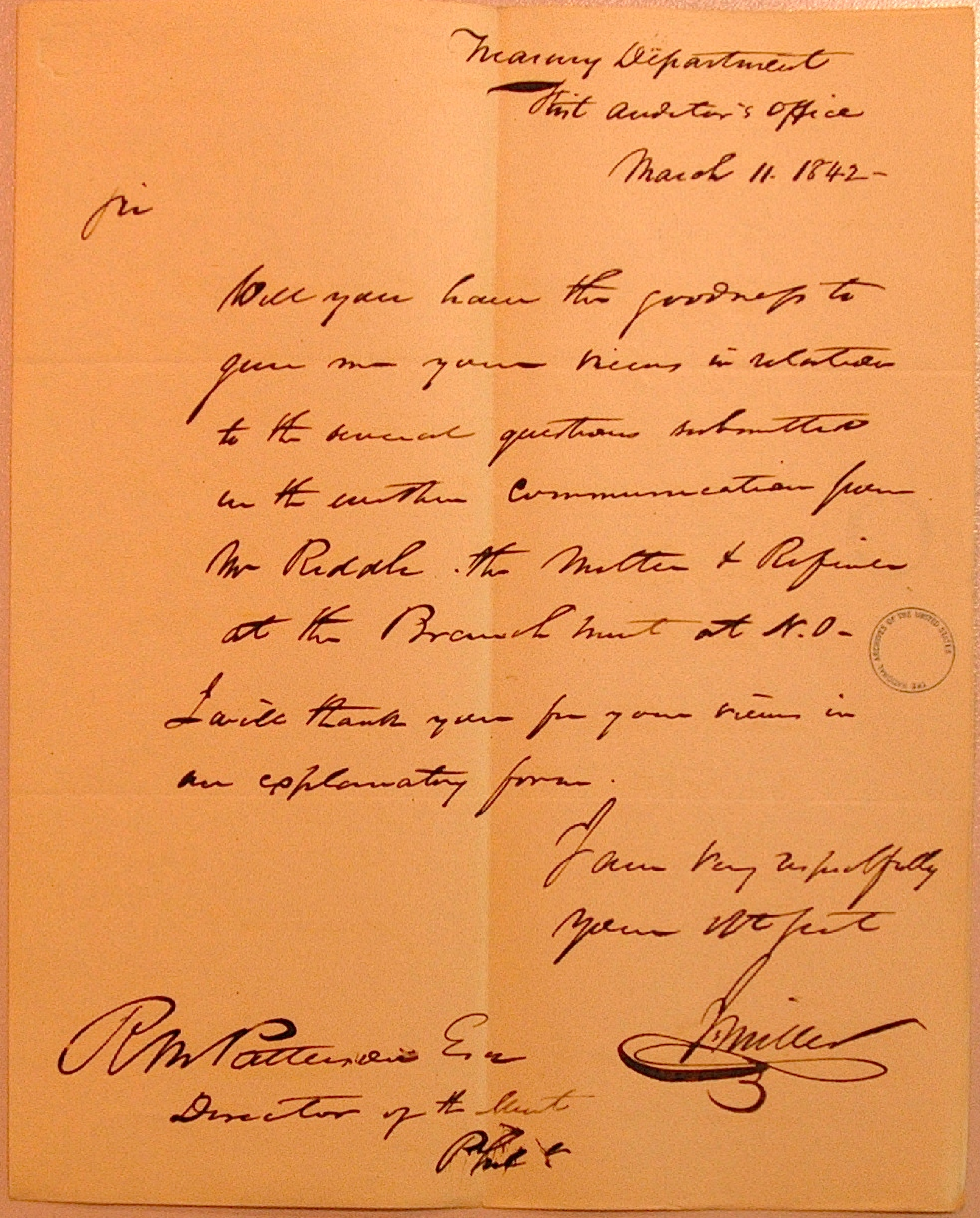
I have now presented my opinions with regard to the several questions ~~fur~~ submitted to you by Dr. Riddell; but there are some other points ~~in~~ connected with his account, in relation to which I am not yet satisfied. The sweep which was sent to New York to be refined contained a certain proportion of gold, the value of which Dr. Riddell set apart ~~fo~~ to serve toward paying the cost of smelting, so as to increase the available balance of silver. This course is objectionable. The gold account and the silver account must each stand by itself; and therefore the net amount of the gold extracted from the sweep must be used to diminish the gold wastage claimed on the account as it now stands, while the net amount of silver from the sweep will be lessened to the same extent. I have already presented this view to Mr. Kennedy.

Dr. Riddell mentions his having employed "a novel and economical method" for extracting the metal from sweep, which leaves it too poor to pay the cost of smelting. A specimen of this sweep was sent by him lately to be assayed here, and we were surprised to find that it contained more silver than that which has been sent to New York. Now if the amount of the sweep thus rejected be considerable, and I infer from my correspondence that it is 13 ~~bbls~~ barrels, the proceeds from it will modify Dr. Riddell's account very favorably. I have written to the Superintendent, making the necessary inquiries into this matter. ~~When I receive his answer, I will~~ If his answers be such as I expect, it will be necessary to remodel Dr. Riddell's account, and, in the mean while, I would suggest the propriety of allowing it to lie over.

R.M.P.

To Jesse Miller, Esq.
First Auditor.



Treasury Department
First Auditor's Office
March 11. 1842–

Sir

Will you have the goodness to give me your views in relation to the several questions submitted in the written communication from Mr Riddle. the Melter & Refiner at the Branch Mint at N.O–

I will thank you for your views in an explanatory form.

I am very respectfully
Your Obt Servt
J. Miller

R M Patterson Esq
Director of the Mint
Philad.

National Archives of the United States

Mint of the United States
March 19th, 1842.

Sir,

Your letter of the 1st of Feb., enclosing ~~the~~ a bill of lading of 13 bbls of Sweep, shipped from your Mint to our agent J. H. Furniss at New York, was received by me on the 14th, and I gave the proper instructions to Mr. Furniss as to the course he must ~~pursue~~ take with the sweep on its arrival.

On the 19th, I wrote to Mr. Geo. Greenfield, the Refiner with whom our arrangements had been made for working the sweep, giving the following estimate of its value.

"By an official statement now before me, signed by the Melter & Refiner, and verified by the Assayer, of the New Orleans Mint, it appears, from assay, that there ~~this~~ sweep yields as follows:

In 100 lbs. Avoir., 8.31 oz. Troy of Standard Silver
" 0.377 " " Gold.

The weight of the 13 bbls of sweep is equal to 4946 lbs., or 44.16 Cwt.

Consequently, in the whole sweep, there is
411.00 oz. Troy of Standard Silver,
18.65 " " gold.

Therefore the whole value of the Silver is	$ 478.25
" " gold	346.97
Whole value of Sweep	825.22
Cost of Smelting, at $7.50 ℔ cwt.	331.25
Net value, to be paid on delivery of Sweep,	$ 493.97."

ARCHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES

As the arrangement with Mr. Greenfield had special reference to Silver Sweep, I did not consider him bound as to this mixed sweep, and I frankly referred the case to him for his decision.

On the 24th, he replied that he would consent to take the sweep as it was, at ~~our~~ the estimate.

Having learned from Mr. Furness that the sweep had arrived, I directed him to deliver it to Mr. Greenfield, on his paying the sum of $493.97. This was done accordingly, and the amount, ~~it~~ after deducting the New York expenses of $5.19, is ~~now~~ in my hands, in Specie, to ~~your~~ the credit of your Treasurer.

The transaction would now seem to be happily closed; but I am not without some misgivings as to the estimate, reported by Dr. Riddell Jan. 6th, and verified by Dr. Hort Jan. 14, 1842. If you will look at this document, you will see that the whole calculation is founded on the assumption that ~~in~~ the 5 oz (of the sweep) there is 727 milligrammes of silver
and 33 " gold.

Now it is not stated whether the ounces in question were Troy or Avoirdupois, but the estimates show that they were valued at 437½ grains, and not 480; so that I concluded they must be Avoirdupois, though I was surprised that ~~they~~ these weights should be used at the Mint, or even found there. I accordingly ~~used~~ adopted the estimate of Mess. Riddell & Hort, without hesitation, in my bargain with Mr. Greenfield, after correcting two mistakes, the first of which is evidently due to the copyist. ~~Your~~ Their estimate makes 100 lbs of sweep to contain 3.774 oz of gold, instead of 0.3773 and makes the value of 18.65 ~~lb~~ oz. st. gold $341.52, instead of $346.97.

But, since the close of the transaction, a portion of the sweep in question has been received by our Melter & Refiner, direct from Dr. Riddell, and has been assayed with great care; and the result shows that

10 oz. Troy yield 1460.5 milligrammes fine silver.
and 66.5 " " gold.

Now the correspondence of this assay with that made at your Mint is perfectly satisfactory, if the 5 oz. to which I have referred be considered as Troy ounces, — but not otherwise; ~~if Troy~~ for your assay would make 10 oz. yield 1454m. silver
and 66m. gold.

I am led to the conclusion, therefore, that the 5 oz. not designated were really Troy, and that ~~they were~~, by mistake, ~~estimated at 437½ instead of 480 grs. If this be so, injustice has been done to Mr. Greenfield~~ the estimates were afterwards made as if they had been Avoirdupois.

I wish you to inquire particularly into this matter, for if the suspected mistake has been really made, injustice has been done to Mr.

4/

Greenfield, and we are bound, in good faith, to remedy it. — "According to ~~Mr. Eckfeldt~~ the estimates made, on our assays, the whole sweep would yield of ~~silver~~ standard silver 376.39 oz. = $437.98

" " gold 17.138 = 318.85

Total, $756.83 (83)

which is less by $68.39 than the ~~prior~~ estimate of your Mint; ~~and~~ which difference, according to Mr. Eckfeldt's assay, and according to Dr. Hort's also if he really used Troy ounces, ought to be refunded to Mr. Greenfield."

In order to discover, if possible, the kind of ounces used by Dr. Hort, I have had recourse to his report on the sweeps, made Oct 30, 1841, in which he says: "5 oz of sweep yield 14 grains of fine silver, which is equal to 186.43 oz. fine silver per ton." Now I find that if Troy ounces be used, the fine silver in a ton would be 190.55 oz; and if Avoirdupois ounces, the fine silver would be 209 oz. The difficulty therefore remains; and I must depend upon your inquiries for its removal.

Besides the specimen of the sweep forwarded to New York, Dr. Riddell also sent a specimen ~~of that which was~~ of Gump, reported to be, by your assayer, "scarcely worthy shipping," ~~"so likely to be thoroughly washed and so poor, as to be no longer available" "the whole amount of silver remaining in said sweep, and (13 bbls,) not exceeding from $40 to 50." $45."~~

This specimen has also been carefully assayed, and we have been surprised to find that ~~it~~ actually

5

contains more silver than the sweep, for, according to Mr. Eckfeldt's, ~~finds that~~ 10 oz. Troy yield 1.702 milligrammes fine silver.

and 21 " " gold.

~~If this be really a specimen of the gravel we suppose, our former assays then shew that it consists of 13 bbls, weighing 4704 lbs. av. = 68,600 oz. Troy; and it would therefore yield of~~

~~Standard silver, 417.18 oz = $485.42~~

~~" gold 5.15 — 95.80~~

~~Total 581.22~~

Hope that the amount of this sweep may be such as to facilitate the adjustment of Dr. Riddell's wastage account on correct principles. ~~You are~~

x We suppose, from the explanation given as to Dr. Riddell's ~~mode~~ method of ~~[illegible]~~ reducing his sweeps, that it corresponds with a process called sweating, long employed at this Mint. It may well be questioned, however, whether any great exertions should be made to reduce the value of sweeps, especially if the expenditure [illegible] the charge for refining by the Act of sweeps, and as the Mint Assay is accepted as the ground of the estimate of value, it would seem that nothing is gained by such efforts at refining as Dr. Riddell has made. [illegible] doubts [illegible] this last specimen of sweep subjected to this process, it does not appear to have been successful.

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 23d ult. — The dies asked for by Mr. Tyler have all been ordered. On the 28th ult., we forwarded 2 pair dimes, & 1 pair ½ dime dies; ~~and~~ to-day we send 1 pr. ½ dollar, and 1 pr. ½ dimes; tomorrow we shall send 2 pr. ½ doll.

The statement respecting the deliveries of silver to the Melter & Refiner in 1841, confirms the remarks made to you in my letter of ~~the~~ Jan 25. as to the excess in the amount of clippings. ~~appears to corroborate~~ ~~another~~ ~~letter~~ ~~communication~~.

R. M. P.
Dir

To/
Jos. M. Kennedy Esq.
Supt. Br. Mint,
New Orleans

Mint U. S.
March 9th, 1842.

Sir,

Your letter of the 21st ult., (mailed 23d.) was not received by me till yesterday; and before your desire could be complied with, that the boxes of bullion announced should be insured, those boxes were delivered at the Mint.

To avoid inconvenience, the deposite was made in the name of my Clerk, Mr Cumming. The amount will, of course, be held subject to your instructions.

We have been very particular as to weighing, melting, and assaying, knowing that you must have meant this as a test deposite. The results are as follows.

No. 124. Your reported weight 742.10 oz. Ours 742.25,
" 128; " " 622.60; " 622.50.

The parcels were melted successively in the same new pot. The weights, after melting, were of
No. 124, 740.85 oz. giving a loss of 1.40,
" 128 622.90 " " gain " 0.40;
the whole loss being one ounce. The too great loss on the first, and the apparent gain on the second, are explained by the circumstance that the same pot was used twice, and that the silver adhering after the first melting was not thoroughly removed.—

If the ~~loss~~ which would be properly averaged between the two melts, the ~~l~~ weights, after melting, would be, of

No. 124, 741.70,
" 128, 622.05.

Each melt was cast into three bars, which were assayed separately, ~~these are~~ with the following results.

No. 124,	1st	bar,	897.3 th.
	2d	"	897.3,
	3d	"	897.3,
No. 128	1st	"	895.75,
	2d	"	895.50,
	3d	"	895.75.

I send enclosed the usual Mint Memorandum of the result of your deposits, the amount of which, $1,588.33, is this day placed to your credit. Your account was credited, on the 5th inst. with $493.97,- being the amt recd by me from Geo. Greenfield, through J. H. as the net proceeds of your [illegible] ~~for~~ sweeps.

I am
R. M. P.
D.

To/
Horace C. Cammack, Esq.

P.S. The value of the coins received from your Mint for the annual Assay, was placed to your credit Feb. 17th, and was as follows: Silver coins 96.25 oz. = $112.00
Gold " 5.241 " = 97.50
Total value $209.50.

P.S.

March 10. I have just recd. your letter of the 24th ult. by I see that our assay of No. 124 differs 2.3 th from that reported in your list. No. 128 is confirmed by our assay. We shall be glad to have an opportunity of testing No. ~~127~~ 267, as you ~~pro~~ propose.

The matter of the weights shall be attended to.

U. S. Branch Mint
N. Orleans March 6 1842

Sir,

I enclose the statement of our operations for last month, which was handed to me yesterday.

In a late communication I stated to you, that Dr Riddell intended to lay before the Auditor and Comptroller his views relative to the claims set up by him in his account and which I did not allow, I would also submit those portions of your letter to me having reference to the subject. I have not done so however, agreeing with Mr Conrad in opinion, that the matter will be referred to you for decision.

Respectfully, yr obt Servt
J. M. Kennedy

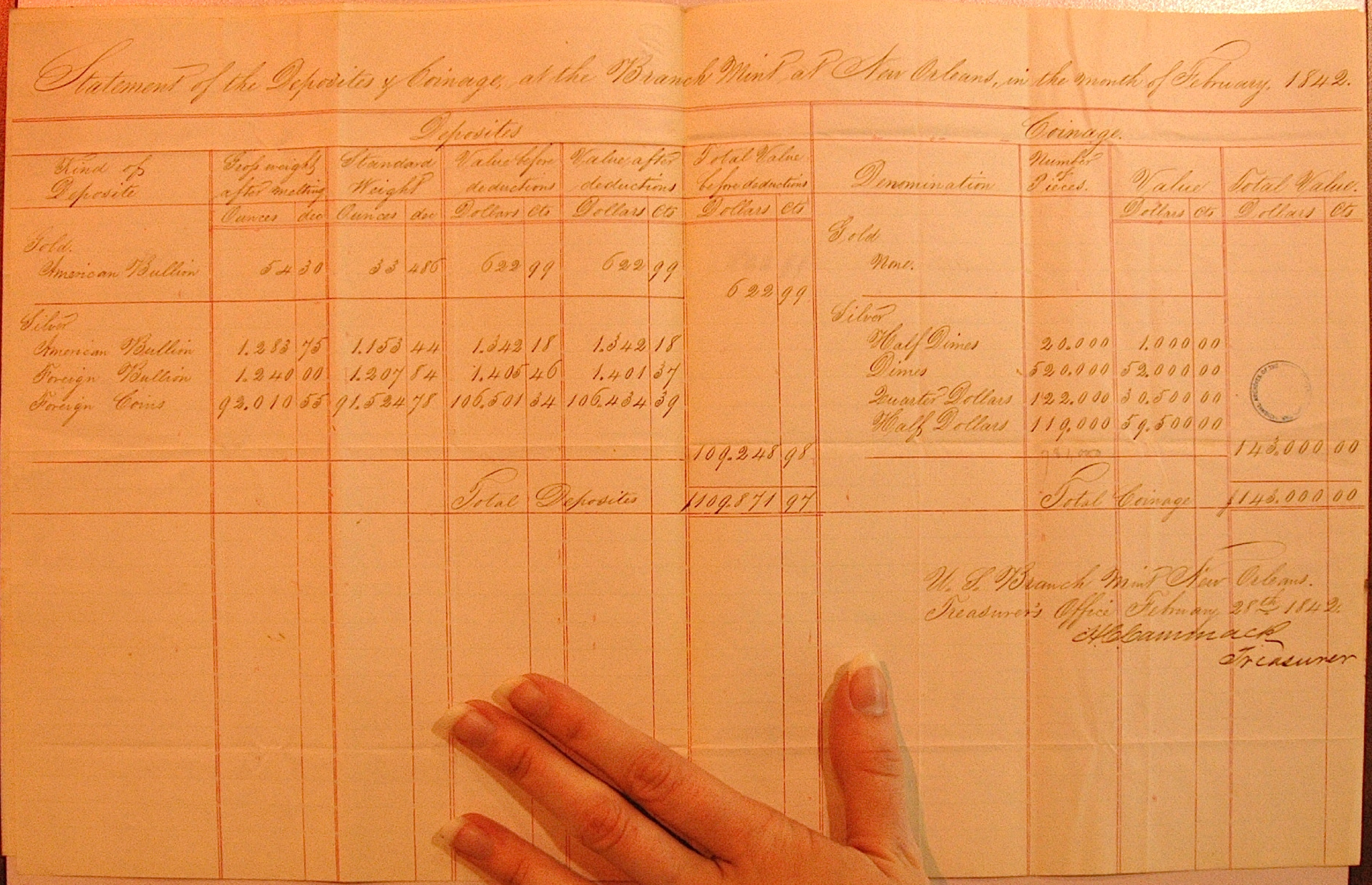
The National Archives of the United States

P. S. Dr Riddell, I find, also claims wastage in 1841, on the balance left in his possession at the close of 1840. That point, I thought he had given up = I forgot to mention, that on the receipt of yours of the 15th ulto I immediately wrote to Messrs Barrow and Fillmore in relation to our appropriation for Wages of Workmen for 1842. Mr Mouton had at that time left the Senate, and is now in N. Orleans.

Be kind enough to send us our dies immediately, for we are much in want of them.

I have understood, that complaints, of

which I know neither the nature nor the source, have been made against me to the President. I presume they must have come from some of the Aspirants for my office now in Washington — These Complaints must be very recent, for Mr. Benton informs me that as late as the 3d of February the President said to him that he had no idea of depriving me of my office for any thing that had transpired so far. I hope that if your intervention can prevent me from being unjustly dealt with, it will not be withheld—



Statement of the Deposites & Coinage, at the Branch Mint at New Orleans, in the month of February, 1842.

Deposites											Coinage					
Kind of Deposite	Groſs weight after melting		Standard Weight		Value before deductions		Value after deductions		Total Value before deductions		Denomination	Number of Pieces.	Value		Total Value.	
	Ounces	dec	Ounces	dec	Dollars	Cts	Dollars	Cts	Dollars	Cts			Dollars	Cts	Dollars	Cts
Gold.											Gold					
American Bullion	54	30	33	486	622	99	622	99			None.					
									622	99						
Silver											Silver					
American Bullion	1.283	75	1.153	44	1.342	18	1.342	18			Half Dimes	20.000	1.000	00		
Foreign Bullion	1.240	00	1.207	84	1.405	46	1.401	37			Dimes	520.000	52.000	00		
Foreign Coins	92.010	55	91.524	78	106.501	34	106.434	39			Quarter Dollars	122.000	30.500	00		
											Half Dollars	119.000	59.500	00		
									109.248	98		781.000			143.000	00
					Total Deposites				$109.871	97		Total Coinage			$143.000	00

U. S. Branch Mint New Orleans.
Treasurer's Office February 28th 1842.
H. C. Cammack
Treasurer

Mint of the United States,
March 3, 1842.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 2d, advising me that the 13 bbls. of New Orleans sweep had been delivered to Mr. G. Greenfield, and that he had paid you the price for them agreed upon, viz. four hundred & ninety three dollars & 97 cents, which you held subject to my order.

I have accordingly drawn an order upon you for this amount, (less your charges $5.19.) in favor of Mr. E. C. Galusha, which I have instructed him to receive it in specie. American gold coins would be preferred.

R. M. P.
Director

To/
T. H. Furness, Esq.
New York.

P.S. – ~~As the amount of your charges belongs to the acct of the New Orleans Br. Mint,~~ I will thank you to send me, by Mr. Galusha, a receipted bill, in duplicate, against the New Orleans Br. Mint, for the amt. of your charges ($5.19)

Branch Mint U. States
New Orleans 3 March 1842

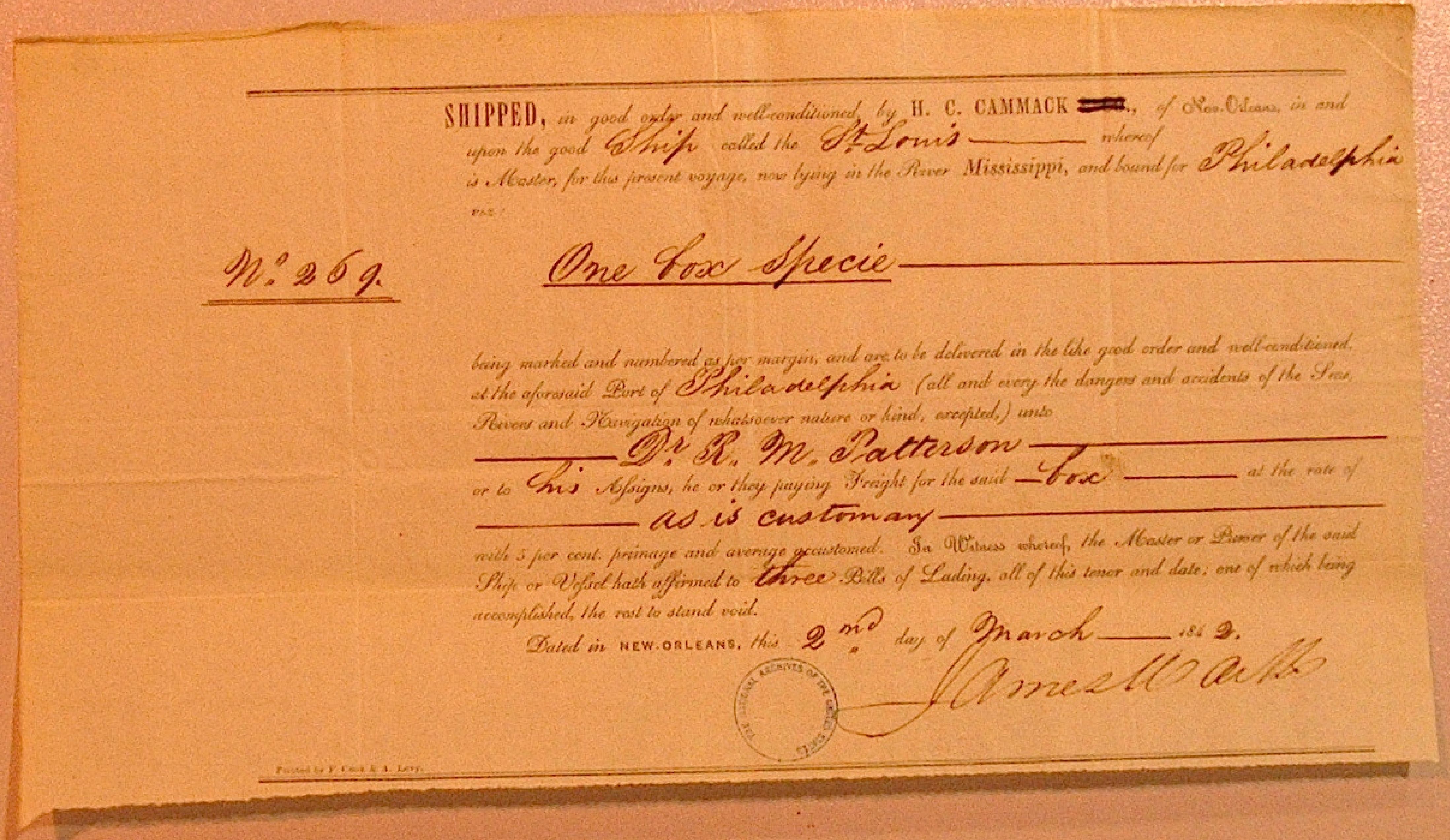
Dr R. M. Patterson
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

ARCHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES

Sir

Enclosed I hand you bill of lading for one box Mexican dollars shipped to you by order of the Superintendent of this Br. Mint being a part of deposite No 269. which please to receive to be melted and assayed. The box contains one thousand ounces - and I think should be insured which please to do. It was my intention to leave a part of the value of the bullion recently sent to you in your hands towards paying for articles purchased by you for this branch, but as our contingent fund has been exhausted at Washington, it cannot now be done.

I am very respectfully
your mo obt St
H Cammack



SHIPPED, in good order and well-conditioned, by H. C. CAMMACK ~~[illegible]~~, of New-Orleans, in and upon the good Ship called the St. Louis —— whereof is Master, for this present voyage, now lying in the River Mississippi, and bound for Philadelphia viz:

No. 269. One box Specie

being marked and numbered as per margin, and are to be delivered in the like good order and well-conditioned, at the aforesaid Port of Philadelphia (all and every the dangers and accidents of the Seas, Rivers and Navigation of whatsoever nature or kind, excepted,) unto Dr. R. M. Patterson or to his Assigns, he or they paying Freight for the said box at the rate of as is customary with 5 per cent. primage and average accustomed. In Witness whereof, the Master or Purser of the said Ship or Vessel hath affirmed to three Bills of Lading, all of this tenor and date; one of which being accomplished, the rest to stand void.

Dated in NEW-ORLEANS, this 2nd day of March 18 2.

James M Ault

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES

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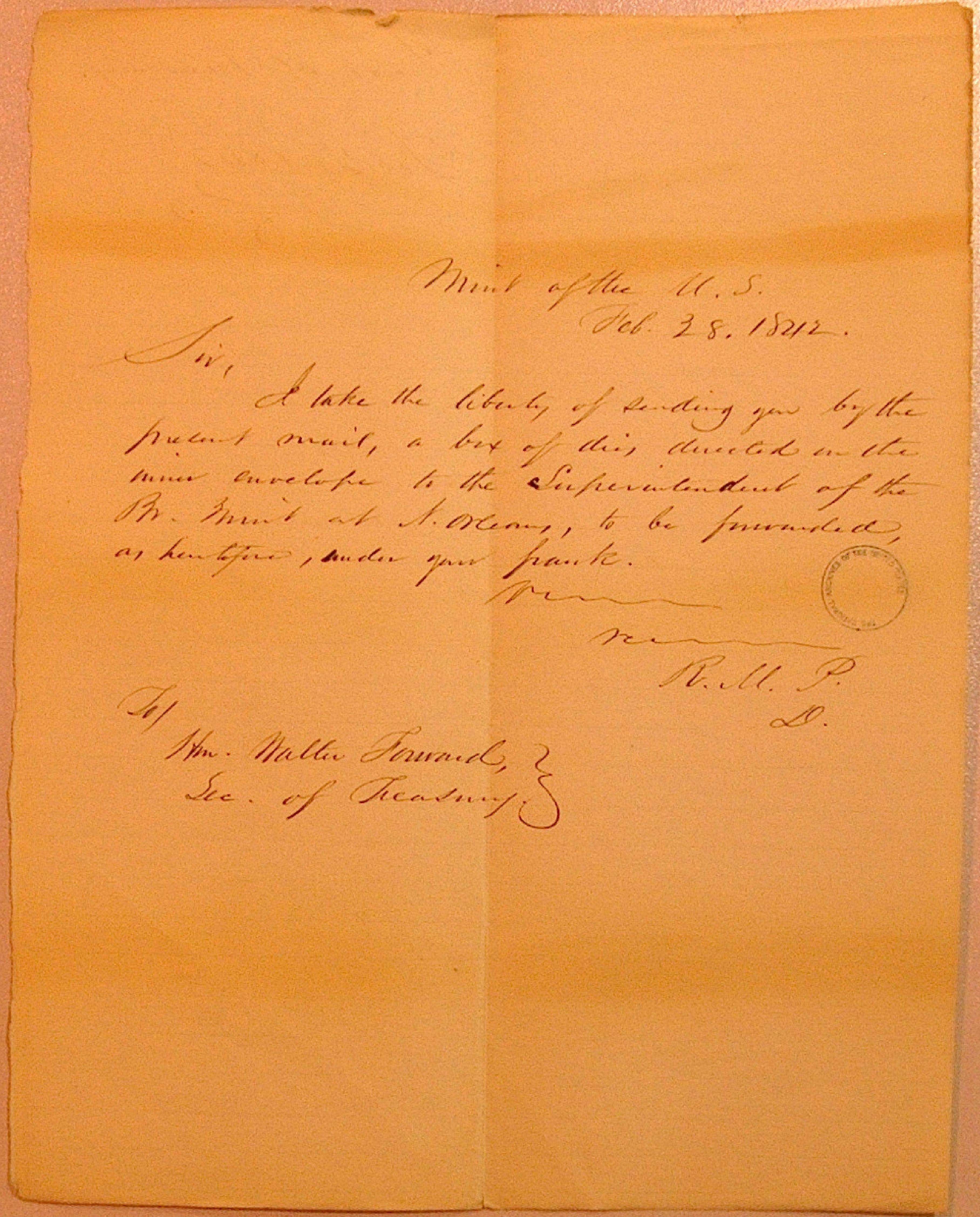


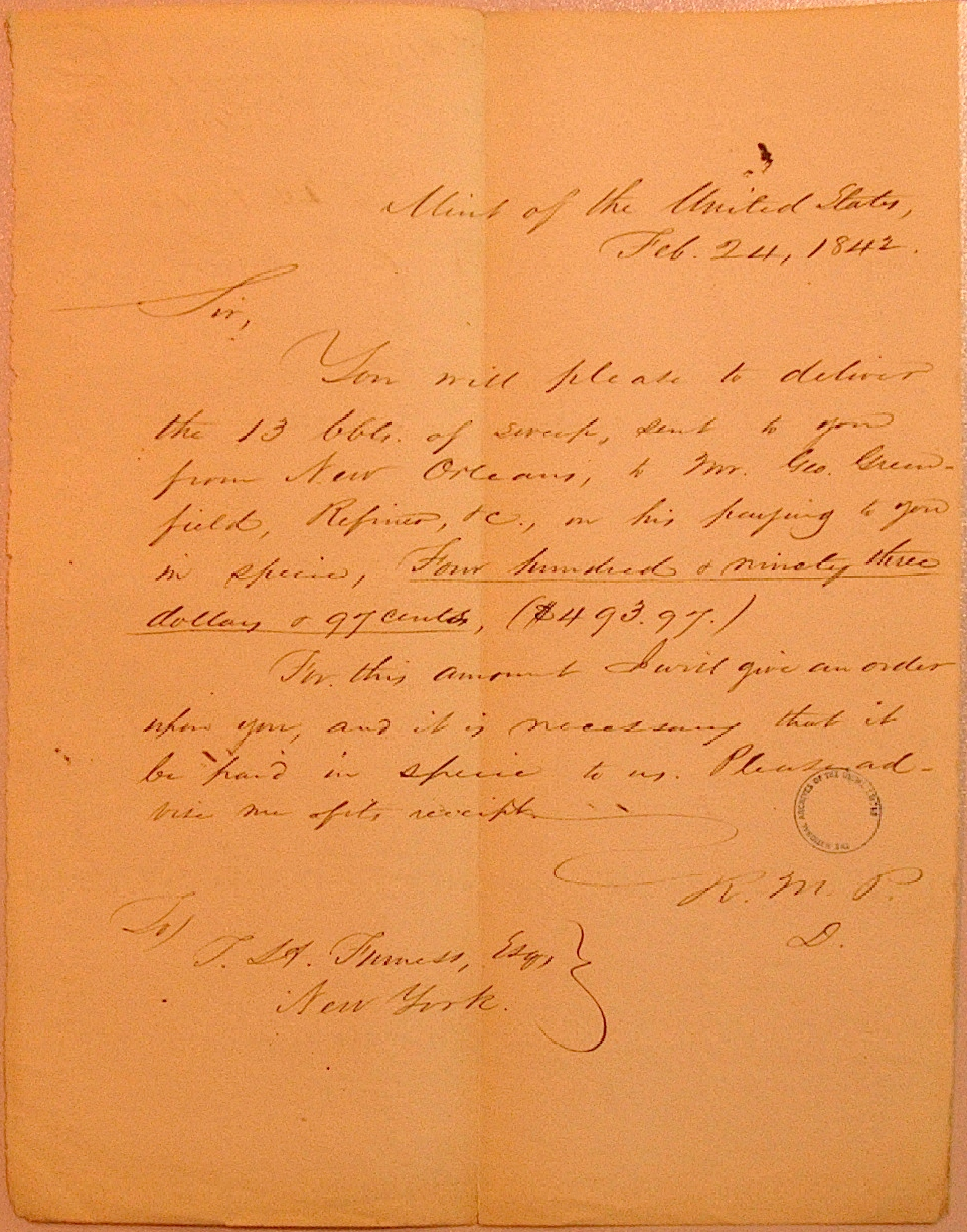
Mint of the U. S.
Feb. 28. 1842.

Sir,

I take the liberty of sending you by the present mail, a box of dies directed on the inner envelope to the Superintendent of the Br. Mint at N. Orleans, to be forwarded, as heretofore, under your frank.

R. M. P.
D.

To/
Hon. Walter Forward,
Sec. of Treasury



Mint of the United States,
Feb. 24, 1842.

Sir,

You will please to deliver the 13 bbl. of sweep, sent to you from New Orleans, to Mr. Geo. Greenfield, Refiner, &c., on his paying to you in specie, Four hundred & ninety three dollars & 97 cents, ($493.97.)

For this amount I will give an order upon you, and it is necessary that it be paid in specie to us. Please advise me of its receipt.

R. M. P.
D.

To
T. H. Furness, Esq.
New York.

Branch Mint New Orleans
Treasurer's Office 24 Febry 1842.

Sir

I have before me your letters of 25. & 28th January - and the 2nd and 9 February contents of which are noted.

My accounts of Gold & Silver bullion for the last quarter have at last gone forward. They went by the mail of this Morning. My account ~~of~~ with the Melter & Refiner differing from the account rendered by him as will be explained to you by the Superintendent

The account for "Coins reserved for assay" has always been kept. with the Coiner. which I believe is in accordance with the forms sent us. It will be changed in future.

I notice particularly your remarks in your letter of 28th on the subject of the Spanish American Coinage. We continue to find the assays of large deposites reported very low - tho' small ones run higher; indeed many of them are now assumed by the M & R at 897.-

I enclose memorandum of the different deposites made by Banking institutions since 1 Jany Shewing the reported fineness of each one. At the request of Mr Kennedy I have detained 1000 ounces out of deposite 269 to be sent to you to attest our assay.

Agreeably to your request I send a detailed account of the various weights

in

use in the weigh room. They are used by the Coiner and the M & R. who I believe have no others.

With much respect
I am
Your faithful Servant
H. C. Cammack
Treasr

P. S. no draft was given to Mr Hooper for the 12 $ to be paid ~~by~~ to Martin Summers. and which I begged the favor of you to pay.

To Dr R. M. Patterson
Director U.S. Mint
Philadelphia

List of Weights.

1 of 500 ounces
400 〃
300 〃
200 〃
100 〃
50 〃
40 〃
30 〃
20 〃
10 〃
6 〃
5 〃
4 〃
3 〃
2 〃
1 ounce
50/100 〃
40/100 〃
20/100 〃
10/100 〃

1 of 5/100 ounce
4/100 〃
2/100 〃
1/100 〃

The National Archives of the United States

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1. Jany.

Standard Ounces	Wt dec	Fineness
9.306	16	895
6.634	26	895.5
21.538	48	894.6
9.944	03	895.5
9.945	28	895.5
13.029	27	895.5
13.929	11	896
13.930	75	896
14.410	46	896
17.224	89	895.5
42.192	41	894.6

The National Archives of the United States

mined the payment

use in the weigh room. These are used
by the Corner who I believe
ha

ed

servant

Treasr

P. S. 12 p to be paid
to the favor
of you

To Dr

Philadelphia

List of Weights

1 of 500 ounces
400 "
300 "
200 "
100 "
50 "
40 "
30 "
20 "
10 "
6 "
5 "
4 "
3 "
2 "
1 ounce
50/100 "
40/100 "
20/100 "
10/100 "

1 of 5/100 ounce
4/100 "
2/100 "
1/100 "

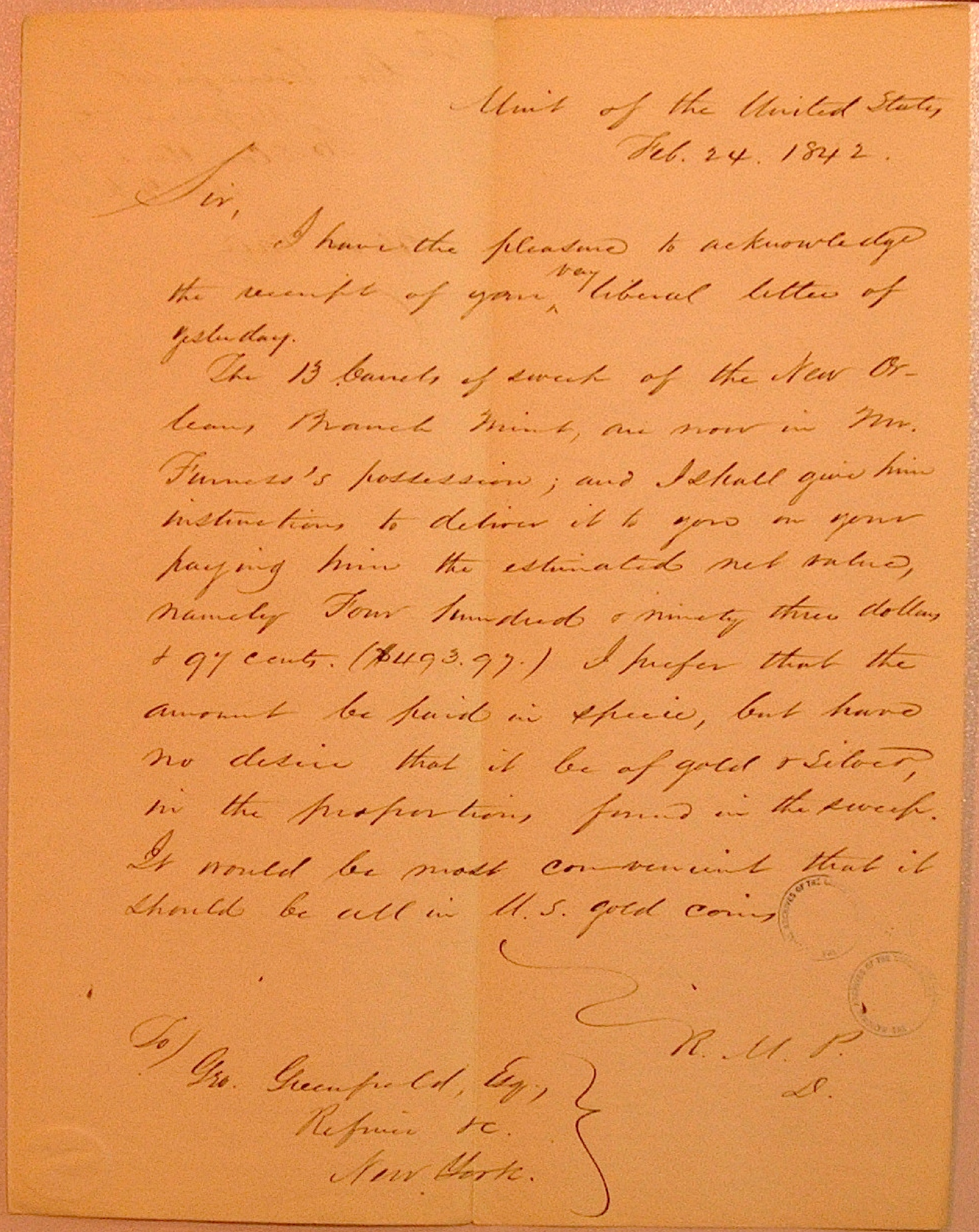
THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES

Deposites by Banks since 1. Jany.

	No. of dep.	By whom Deposited	Standard Ounces	Wt. dec	Fineness
	124	New Orleans Exchange & Bank'g Co.	9.306	16	895
×	128	The Citizens Bank of Louisiana	6.634	26	895.5
	129	Union Bank of Louisiana	21.538	48	894.6
×	197	Citizens Bank of Louisiana	9.944	03	895.5
×	198	ditto do	9.945	28	895.5
×	199	ditto do	13.029	27	895.5
✓	220	ditto do	13.929	11	896
✓	222	ditto do	13.930	75	896
✓	223	ditto do	14.410	46	896
	238	Bank of Louisiana	17.224	89	895.5
	269	Louisiana State Bank	42.192	41	894.6

× One deposite divided to convenience the payment
✓ same

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES



Mint of the United States,
Feb. 24. 1842.

Sir,

I have the pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your very liberal letter of yesterday.

The 13 barrels of sweep of the New Orleans Branch Mint, are now in Mr. Furness's possession; and I shall give him instructions to deliver it to you on your paying him the estimated net value, namely Four hundred & ninety three dollars & 97 cents. ($493.97.) I prefer that the amount be paid in specie, but have no desire that it be of gold & silver, in the proportions found in the sweep. It would be most convenient that it should be all in U.S. gold coins.

R. M. P.
D.

To) Geo. Greenfield, Esq.,
Refiner &c.
New York.

U. S. Branch Mint N. Orleans
February 23d 1842.

Sir,

I enclose a copy of a letter from the Coiner relative to our dies, which, I hope, will be satisfactory to you. I also send herewith, in accordance with the explanation required in your letter of the 25 January, a memorandum from the "Treasurer's office," of the deliveries of bullion and clippings made to the "Melter & Refiner," during the last year. I have allowed him full wastage on the whole amount, less 37.695.30, left in his possession at the close of the year 1840, in relation to which I hope I have taken the correct view. Mr. Cammack desires me to say to you, that the toppings and filings and condemned ingots are not returned to his office, and do not pass thro' his books - He forwarded his accounts to the Treasury Department this morning, and the difference between them, and that presented by the Melter & Refiner, is in the two claims of Dr. Riddell, of 206 oz. as "deduction required to pay for smelting sweeps left by Mr. Maxwell late Melter & Refiner" and the "amount required for making the silver wastage for 1840 full, as a set-off for 300 oz in gold alloy, received in April," neither of which has been allowed.

As Dr. Riddell is about laying the case him-self before the Department, I will send on at the same time, copies of those portions of your letter to me, which have reference thereto.

Respectfully
Yr. obedt. Servant
J. M. Kennedy
Supt.

R. M. Patterson Esq
Director of the
Mint of the U. S.
Philada.

The deliveries to the Melter & Refiner during the year 1841. were as follows.

Amount weighed at the close of the year 1840. & left in his possession	37.695.30
Bullion. per detailed account	422.738.10
Clippings . do	508.883.71
Total	969.317.11

on which he claims a wastage of $1938\frac{63}{100}$ ounces.

The wastage of 1840. claimed by Dr. Riddell did not reach the limit fixed by law, and therefore perhaps it is proper that the amount in his possession on 1st January 1841. should be included in the delivery of 1841. and the 2$^{\text{pm}}$ calculated on it; but this will affect his claim of 274.97 for balance of wastage for 1840, if it should be admitted.

In the bullion delivered over to the Treasurer at the close of last year, are

	ounces.
Clippings	11.000.00
Mexican Dollars	4.945.00
do	855.00

which amount is included in the deliveries of 1841. and on which a wastage has been charged, tho' not melted. This is perhaps correct if it be understood that the balances from one year to another are not subject to wastage when the full limit has been reached the preceding year

New Orleans Br Mint
Treasurer's office February 16th 1842.

The 37.695.30 left in the possession of the Melter & Refiner on the 31 Dec 1840, and which entered into the amount upon which wastage was claimed for that year, cannot be said to have been delivered to him in 1841, he is consequently not entitled to wastage on that amount for 1841. I do not think that under any circumstances that Officer can receive two wastages upon the same amount. In like manner if wastage be claimed in 1841 upon the clippings and Mexican dollars above mentioned, amounting to 16,800 oz. none can be allowed upon the same items in 1842. The returning by the Treasurer to the Melter & Refiner of the bullion weighed at the close of the year in settlement of his account, does not constitute a delivery upon which wastage is allowed by law —

1841.

January.	Bullion weighed & left in the possession of the Melter & Refiner.	37.695.30	
	Bullion.	40.369.30	
	Clippings.	100.695.30	178.759.90
February	Clippings.		67.670.90
March	Bullion	56.168.17	
	Clippings	23.040.84	79.209.01
April	Bullion	36.500.89	
	Clippings	24.300.00	60.800.89
May.	Bullion	74.185.92	
	Clippings	55.239.67	129.425.59
June	Bullion	97.742.35	
	Clippings	105.000.00	202.742.35
July	Bullion	1.420.05	
	Clippings	65.000.00	66.420.05
August	Bullion	272.89	
	Clippings	15.000.00	15.272.89
November	Bullion	75.440.23	
	Clippings	14.937.00	90.377.23
December	Bullion	40.638.30	
	Clippings	38.000.00	78.638.30
			969.317.11

Bullion	Clippings		
37.695.30	100.695.30		
40.369.30	67.670.90		
56.168.17	23.040.84		
36.500.89	24.300.00		
74.185.92	55.239.67		
97.742.35	105.000.00		
1.420.05	65.000.00		
272.89	15.000.00		
75.440.23	14.937.00		
40.638.30	38.000.00		
460.433.40	508.883.71	—	969.317.11

37.695.30
422.738.10
460433.40

The above is memorandum of bullion & clipping delivered to the M&R in the year 1841

New York Feby 23rd 1842.

Sir /

Your favour of the 19th was duly received by me in a midst of a heavy domestic affliction which must plead my excuse for not promptly replying.

I receive and accept your statement of value of the 13 Barrels Sweeps shipped by the New Orleans Mint by the Shakespeare and shall receive them from the hands of your agent according to our first agreement without reference to their difference of description. I will pay into the hands of your agent Mr. J. H. Furness in Specie paying funds the amount of your statement upon receipt of the Sweeps. — or if you wish: I will send to your Mint Gold & Silver coin in proportionate quantities to the metal in the Sweeps. either of these ways will suit and shall be as you may order. The disappointment and inconvenience I have suffered in this matter I doubt not will be considered by a continuance of your good favour in inducing the New Orleans Mint to send the Balance of their Sweeps to me without delay.

Respectfully
Your obedient Servant
Geo. Greenfield

To Dr. R. M. Patterson
Direct. U. S. Mint

New york Feby 22 1847

Dr. Sir,

I duly received your letter of the 18th inst, informing me of the Shipment, from N. Orleans, to me, of 12 barrels Sweeps — They have arrived and are in Store &c —

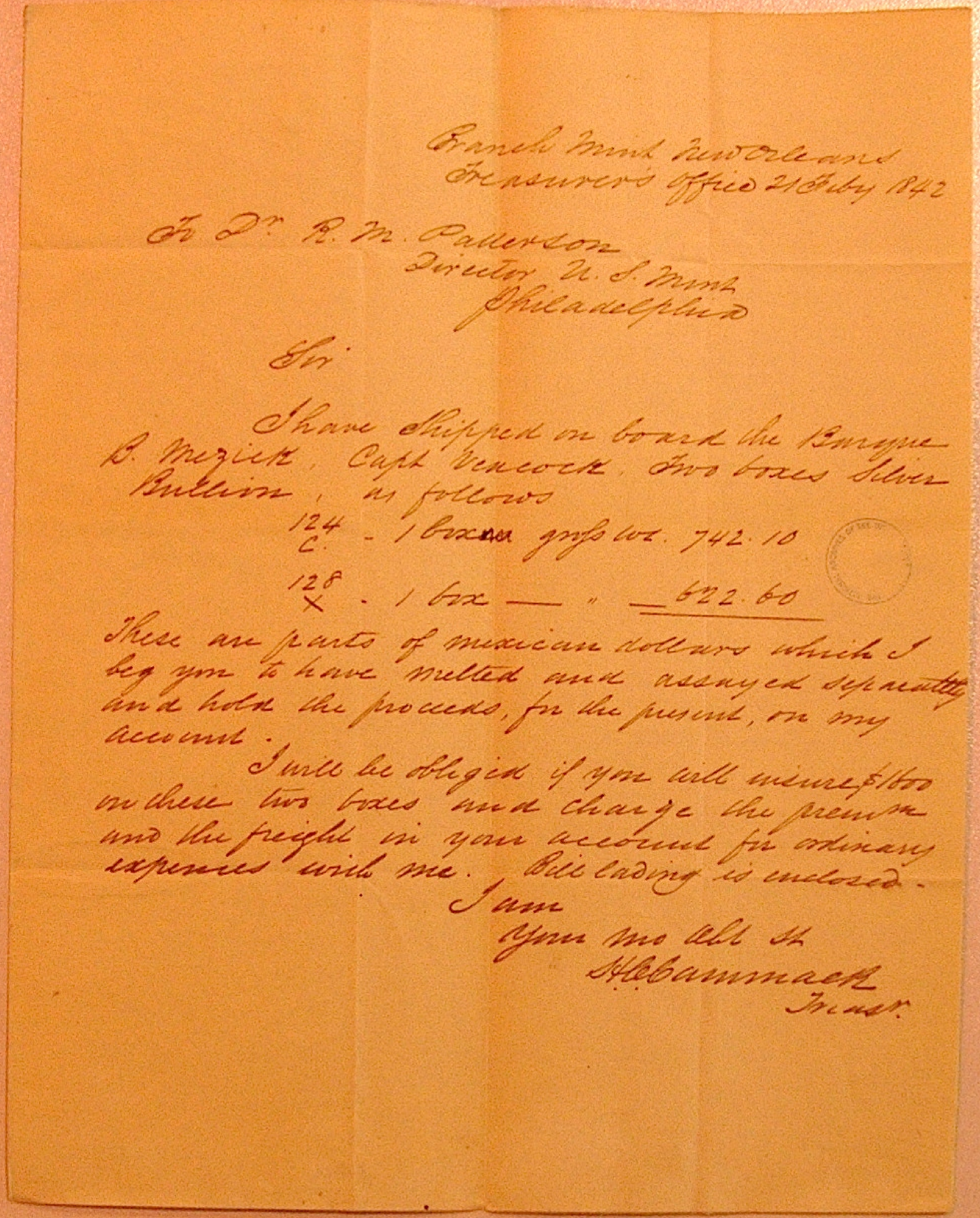
Iam, Yr. Obt. Servt.

J. W. Furnis

To

R. M. Patterson Esqr

Philadelphia



Branch Mint New Orleans
Treasurer's Office 21 Feby 1842

To Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director U. S. Mint
Philadelphia

Sir

I have shipped on board the Brigue D. Mezick, Capt Vencock, Two boxes Silver Bullion, as follows

124 C.	- 1 box	gross wt.	742.10
128 X	. 1 box	"	622.60

These are parts of mexican dollars which I beg you to have melted and assayed separately and hold the proceeds, for the present, on my account.

I will be obliged if you will insure $1600 on these two boxes and charge the premm and the freight in your account for ordinary expenses with me. Bill lading is enclosed.

I am
Your mo obt st
H C Cammack
Treasr.

Mint of the United States.
Feb. 19th, 1842.

Sir,

By a letter & bill of lading received from New Orleans, I learn that 13 bbls. of Sweep have been shipped from the Mint there, per ship Shakspeare, to our agent Mr. T. H. Furness of New York.

By an official statement now before me, signed by the Melter & Refiner, and verified by the Assayer of the New Orleans Mint, it appears, ~~that~~ from ~~the~~ assay ~~of this sweep~~, that there is

In 100 lbs. Avoi. of this Sweep, 8.31 oz. Tr. of Standard Silver.
and 0.377 " " Gold.

~~And~~ the weight of the 13 bbls of sweep is equal to 4946 lbs. or 44 1/6 Cwt.

Consequently in the whole sweep ~~then~~ there is
411.— oz. Tr. of Standard Silver
18.65 " " gold

Therefore the ~~whole~~ value of the silver is $ 478.25
" gold — — 346.97

Whole value of Sweep $ 825.22
Cost of Smelting, at $7.50 p cwt — 331.25
Net value to be paid on delivery of Sweep $ 493.97

By the arrangement between us it was agreed that this amount was to be paid by you to our agent Mr. Furness, on his delivering the sweep to you, ~~and I have given him instructions accordingly~~.

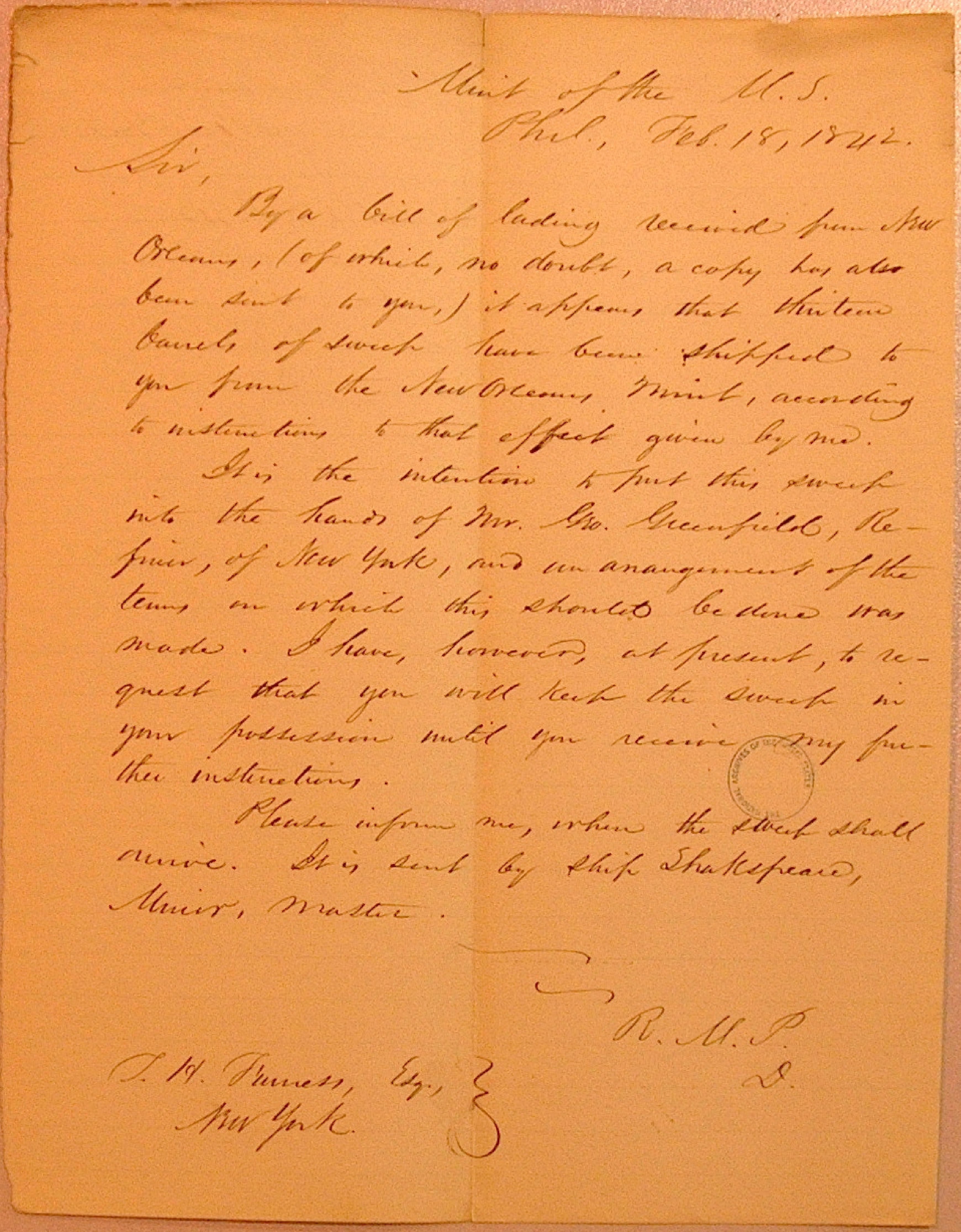
R. M. P.

D

To/

Geo. Greenfield, Esq.
Refiner.
New York.

As our arrangement, however, had special regard to silver sweep, you will please to let me know whether you object to extending it to the mixed sweep, as ~~is expected of you~~ seems to be taken for granted by the Melter & Refiner at New Orleans. I confess that I cannot expect you to undertake the parting of the gold & silver without charge; but could ~~you~~ not your purpose be answered by depositing your bullion at the Mint, for coinage, after you have fluxed it down?



Mint of the U. S.
Phil. Feb. 18, 1842.

Sir,

By a bill of lading received from New Orleans, (of which, no doubt, a copy has also been sent to you,) it appears that thirteen barrels of sweep have been shipped to you from the New Orleans Mint, according to instructions to that effect given by me.

It is the intention to put this sweep into the hands of Mr. Geo. Greenfield, Refiner, of New York, and an arrangement of the terms on which this should be done was made. I have, however, at present, to request that you will keep the sweep in your possession until you receive my further instructions.

Please inform me, when the sweep shall arrive. It is sent by ship Shakspeare, Minor, Master.

R. M. P.
D.

J. H. Furness, Esq.,
New York

ARCHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES

Mint U.S.
Feb. 16th, 1842.

Sir,

On looking over the estimates for 1842, presented by the Committee of Ways & Means, I was surprised to find that the item of ~~pay~~ wages of ~~for~~ workmen, at your Mint was set down at $2000. I immediately wrote to make inquiry into the matter of the Chairman, Mr. Fillmore, and an answer from him just received, ascribes the reduction, (as might be inferred from the printed document,) to your having a balance in the Treasury, under this head, undrawn at the end of 1841, of $12,320. This would, indeed, reduce your appropriation to $10,000, and not to $2,000, as I have noticed to Mr. Fillmore, — but it is important for you to show, (if such, as I have no doubt, be the case,) that the balance of $12,320 was really not available for 1842. If you do not act promptly and effectually in this matter, your operations, for the present year, may be most seriously embarrassed.

=

The annual assay was held here yesterday. I subjoin the results as to fineness.

Philadelphia Mint. Gold 900.3
Silver 900.4

New Orleans Mint. Gold — 901.8
Silver — 899.5

Charlotte Mint. Gold, — 899.7
Dahlonega Mint. Gold, — 900.2

You will observe that it has again happened that the greatest deviations from standard have occurred at your Mint, though no complaint can be made ~~of the~~ now of the silver, which is but 0.5 th below standard. Last year, you will recollect, it was 1.8 ~~th~~ below. But the gold is greatly in excess, as it was also last year. Both point ~~out~~ to a circumstance which has been a frequent subject of ~~complaint or~~ correspondence between us, — the probable undervaluation of foreign gold coins by your assayer. ~~[illegible]~~

The trial of weights, for your Mint, resulted as follows, and was satisfactory.

Gold. — Standard weight — 5.241 oz.
Actual weight — 5.239
Defect — 0.002

Silver — Standard weight, 96.25 oz
Actual weight, 96.28
Excess — — 0.03

Your letter enclosing the Bill of Lading of Dr. Riddell's sweeps was received yesterday, and the ~~matter~~ subject shall have my attention.

R. M. P.

To Jos. M. Kennedy Esq.
Sup. Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

Coiner's Office February 14th 1842

To/ J. M. Kennedy Esqr
Superintendent

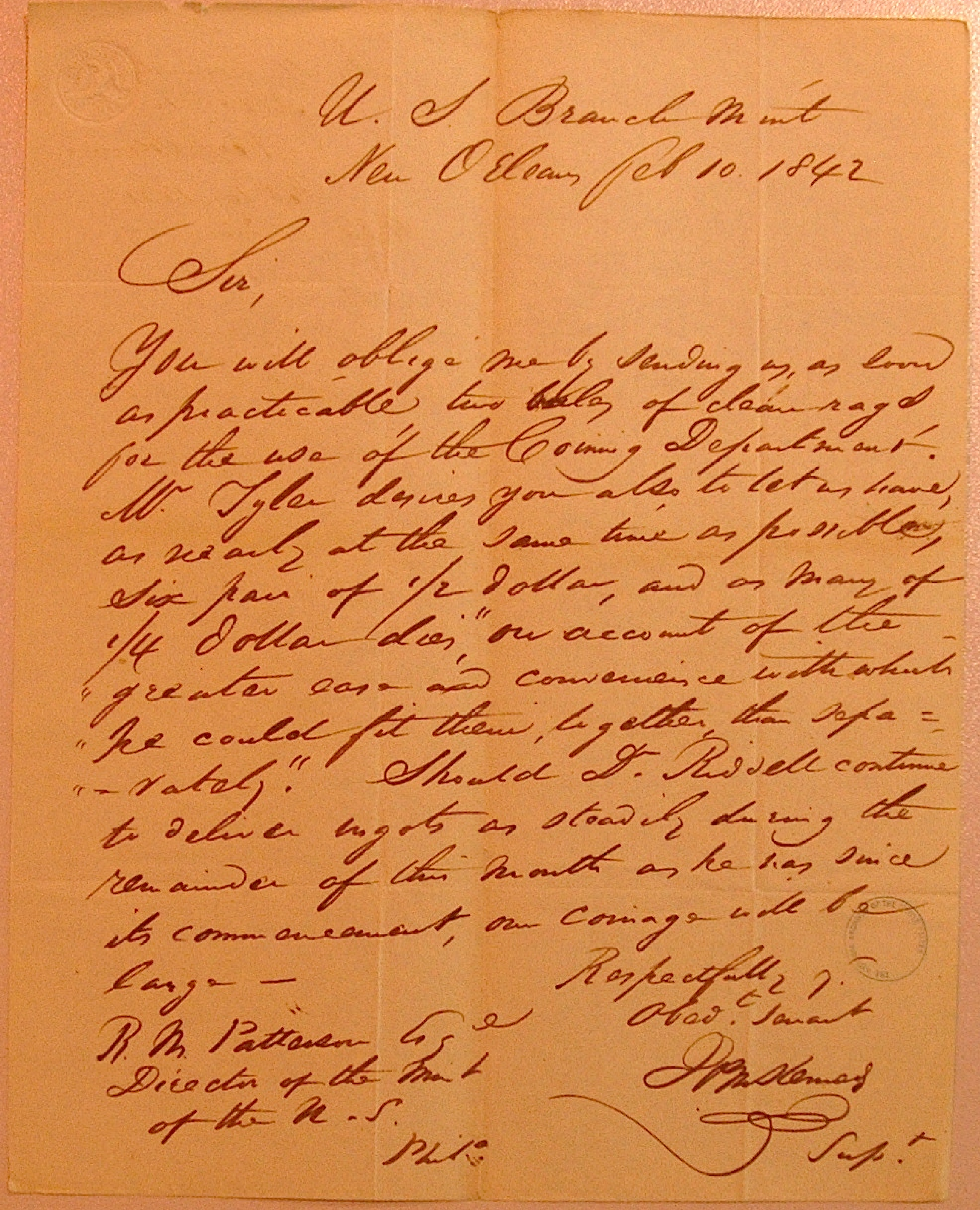
Sir

Since our conversation this morning, relative to Dr Patterson's remarks upon my last call for dies, I have examined my books and find that since the 1st of February 1841 I have received only 10 pair of dime dies, and have delivered to the Treasurer 2.200.000 dimes, and have now 2 pairs of dies not yet so hardened, which you will see, makes an average of 375.000 pieces, for each pair of dies used, and I am Con:fident that 2. or 3 pairs coined each, more than 400.000 pieces

The 1/2 dime dies have averaged more than 200.000 pieces for each pair used during the same time, all of which, I feel sure will satisfy the utmost expectations of Dr Patterson

I cannot think it proper to Cancel all the last years dies, until we receive a sufficient number of the present year to continue the Coining. The propriety of stamping the date 1841 upon the coins of this year may be questioned, but I think when Dr Patterson remembers, that we have received only one die of each denomination, with the date of this year, and is apprised that we have already worn out the dime, ½ dime and ½ dollar, by stamping their usual quantity, he will see the necessity of our continuing the old date in use. The reason of my asking for so many small dies, was that the Treasurer told me, that after paying out 700.000 dimes coined in December, that the demand was likely to increase, which has thus far been the case, for there are now more than 80,000$ deposited for small coins. And I still think 3 pairs of dime and 1 of ½ dimes will be required each month for several months, but if not, there can no harm arise from my having a few dies in reserve in the early part of the year

Very respectfully
Your faithful Servant
(Signed) Philos B Tyler coiner



U. S. Branch Mint
New Orleans Feb 10. 1842

Sir,

You will oblige me by sending us, as soon as practicable two bales of clean rags for the use of the Coining Department. Mr Tyler desires you also to let us have, as nearly at the same time as possible, six pair of ½ dollar, and as many of ¼ dollar dies, "on account of the "greater ease and convenience with which "he could fit them, together than sepa=-rately". Should Dr. Riddell continue to deliver ingots as steadily during the remainder of this month as he has since its commencement, our coinage will be large —

Respectfully y.
Obedt. Servant
J M Kennedy
Supt.

R. M. Patterson Esqre
Director of the Mint
of the U. S.
Phila.

Mint U.S.
Feb. 9th, 1842.

Sir,

I have just received your letter of the 27th ult., in which you ask my views as to the instructions sent from the Mint with regard to the allowance for dirt &c. to be made in weighing out Mexican dollars, in delivering to the Melter & Refiner. — I answer that your understanding of these instructions is correct, and that the deduction in question is 3/4 oz. in 1000 dollars, or 0.865 oz. in 1000 ozs. — Such is the uniform practice at this Mint, and it is found to give a sufficient protection to the Melter. No ~~difference~~ change in the rule is made when, as usual, a portion of the deposite is melted in order to ascertain the title of the silver.

In this Mint the operations of one Clerk are always checked by another Clerk. Thus the weighings made by the Clerk of the Weigh-room are examined by the Bookkeeper. To give to the latter a means of judging of the relations ~~to~~ of the weights before and after the melting, ~~a table was prepared~~ so as to know when an error ~~might be expected~~ ought to be suspected, a table was prepared, in which the ordinary loss in melting coins was set down at 1/10 the of 1 per cent, and the extreme loss at 1/7th. But these ~~are~~ were never considered as accurate numbers, and above all were never given as a rule for an actual allowance, as seems to be supposed by Dr. Riddell.

~~Our~~ Repeated experiments made by us show, that when the melting of Silver coins is made with the requisite precautions, there is no sensible refining in the pot. The claim made on this ground cannot therefore be sustained.

I am not aware of any *physical* reason why the wastage at the New Orleans Mint should be greater than at this, or why, ~~any~~ therefore, any greater allowances should be permitted.

I have myself felt frequent solicitude with regard to the accuracy of your weights, deprived as you are of the means of testing them. I will thank you to let me know, in detail, what are the weights which you actually possess, and I will then take some measures for procuring you a supply of the necessary series for comparing them.

R. M. P.
Dr

To H. C. Cammack Esq.
Treasurer of Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

U. S. Branch Mint
N. Orleans Feb 8. 1842

Sir,

Enclosed you have the statement of our operations for January, which I did not receive from the Treasurer's office until yesterday.

Respectfully
Yr obedt servant
J M Kennedy
Supt.

R. M. Patterson Esqre.
Director of the Mint
of the U. S.
Philada.

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES

Statement of the Deposites & Coinage at the Branch Mint at New Orleans. in the month of January 1842.

Deposites

Kind of Deposite	Gross Weight after melting		Standard Weight		Value before deductions		Value after deductions		Total Value before deductions	
	Ounces	dec	Ounces	dec	Dollars	Cts	Dollars	Cts	Dollars	Cts
Gold										
U. S. Bullion	18	31	18	799	349	73	349	73		
Foreign Bullion	17	35	17	704	329	37	329	37		
Foreign Coins	6	82	6	638	123	49	123	49		
U. S. Coins, Burnt	15	00	4	585	85	26	85	26		
									887	85
Silver										
Foreign Bullion	114	45	113	55	132	13	131	75		
Foreign Coins	167.013	05	166.168	59	193.359	26	193.182	64		
U. S. Coins, Burnt	15	00	10	91	12	69	10	74		
					193,371	95				
									193.504	08
					Total Deposites				$194.391	93

Coinage

Denomination	Number of Pieces	Value		Total Value	
		Dollars	Cts	Dollars	Cts
Gold.					
None					
Silver					
Half Dimes	140.000	7.000	00		
Dimes	112.500	11.250	00		
Quarter Dollars	35.000	8.750	00		
Half Dollars	84.000	42.000	00		
				69.000	00
	371,500 ✓				
	Total	Coinage		$69.000	00

U. S. Branch Mint New Orleans.
Treasurer's Office January 31st 1842
H. C. Cammack
Treasurer

Mint U.S.
Feb. 2d. 1842.

Sir,

I have to regret that the piece of silver sent in your letter of the 21st ult. was too small for an ordinary assay by the humid method. We had, ~~therefore~~ accordingly, to mix pure silver with it to make up the necessary weight, and then to determine the quality indirectly. The process was undoubtedly correct in principle, but still is not so satisfactory as if ~~a larger~~ the whole slip had been ~~made~~ of the metal of which the fineness was sought. The result of the assay showed a title of 895 ths.

NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES

R. M. P.
D.

To/
H. C. Cammack, Esq.
Treasurer Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

U. S. Branch Mint,
N. Orleans February 1. 1842

Sir,

I have the honor to enclose the Bill of Lading for Dr. Riddell's sweeps, shipped to New York as recommended by you —

Respectfully
Yr. Obedt. Servant.
J. M. Kennedy
Supt.

R. M. Patterson Esq.
Director of the
Mint of the
U. S.
Phila.

Mint U.S.
Feb. 1, 1842.

Sir,

I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 21st ult.

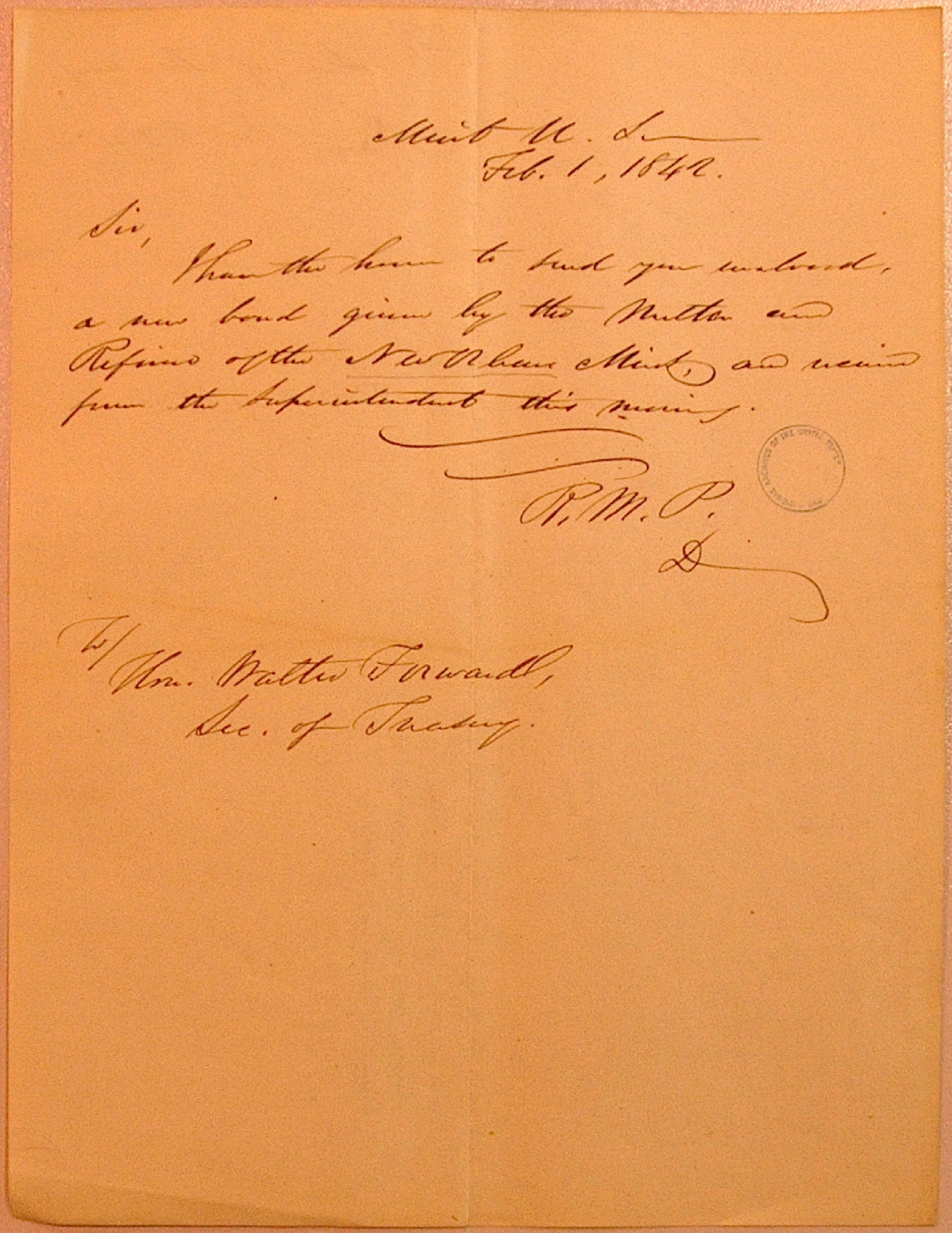
The bond of Dr. Riddell has received my certificate of approval, and will be immediately sent to the Department at Washington.

As to Dr. Riddell's wastage account, I believe you will find my views fully communicated in a letter of the 25th ult. I do not know that I have any thing to add to the remarks there made. A part of my difficulties, regarding the diminished quantity of sweeps, and the smelting at the Mint, I find answered in Dr. Riddell's letter to you.

As to the destruction of the old dies, there can certainly be no reason for postponing that of the heads which carry the date, and the tails ought to be retained as long as they are fit to be used in coining. A supply of dime & half-dime dies shall be sent in compliance with Mr. Tyler's wishes; but the sweeping order for 3 pairs of dime and 2 pairs of ½ dime dies every month does not strike me as quite reasonable. I have just been examining a head die which has struck 200 000 dimes and it has all the appearance of being good for as many more. The corresponding tail die was used last year, and the coiner could not tell how many more it had struck than the 200000. It was quite uninjured.

R. M. P.

To/
Jos. M. Kennedy, Esq.
Sup. Br. Mint
New Orleans



Mint U. S.
Feb. 1, 1842.

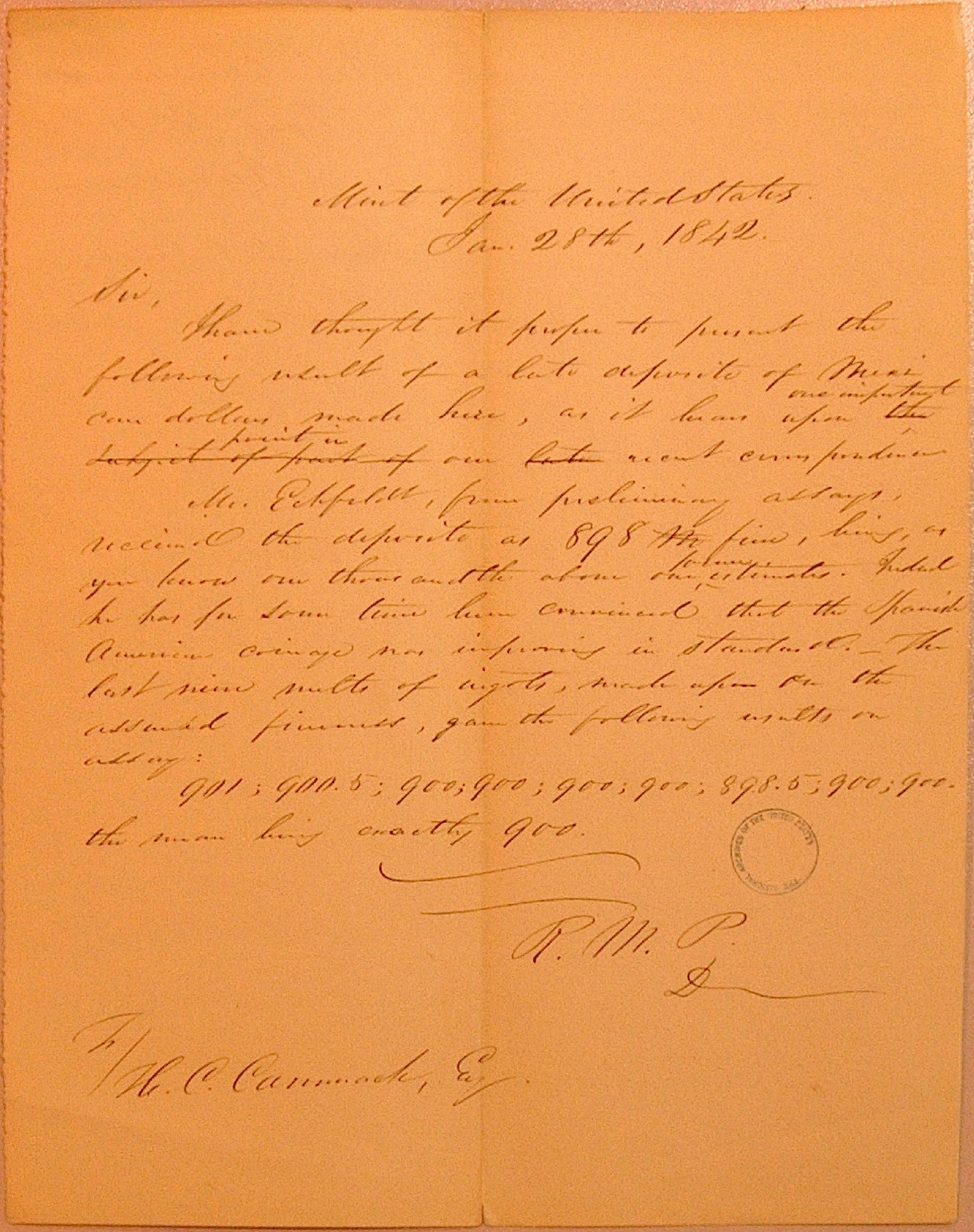
Sir,

I have the honor to send you enclosed, a new bond given by the Melter and Refiner of the New Orleans Mint, and received from the Superintendent this morning.

R. M. P.
D

ARCHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES

To
Hon. Walter Forward,
Sec. of Treasury.



Mint of the United States.
Jan. 28th, 1842.

Sir,

I have thought it proper to present the following result of a late deposite of Mexican dollars made here, as it bears upon ~~the~~ one important ~~subject of part of~~ point in our ~~late~~ recent correspondence.

Mr. Eckfeldt, from preliminary assays, received the deposite as 898 ~~thz~~ fine, being, as you know one thousandth above ~~our~~ former estimates. Indeed he has for some time been convinced that the Spanish American coinage was improving in standard. — The last nine melts of ingots, made up on the assumed fineness, gave the following results on assay:

901; 900.5; 900; 900; 900; 900; 898.5; 900; 900.

the mean being exactly 900.

R. M. P.
D

To/ H. C. Cammack, Esq.

U. S. Branch Mint New Orleans
Treasurer's Office 27 January 1842

Sir

I hand you inclosed a note received a few days ago from the Melter & Refiner of this Mint on the subject of allowances for loss on deposites for melting, which has been submitted to Mr Kennedy and by his recommendation is now referred to you.

The point about which Dr Riddell and myself do not agree in understanding the instructions under which we act, is the allowance to be made, on deposites of Mexican dollars, for loss of melting, where a small portion is melted for the purpose of ascertaining the title. For example; a deposite of 50000 Mexican dollars being made, 2000 are melted to ascertain the title and the balance delivered without being melted, what deduction should be made on the balance?

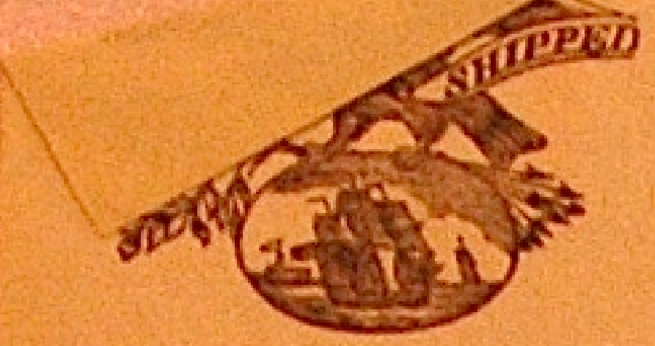
I am desirous to have tested the accuracy of the weights employed in the transactions of this mint and beg to enquire if you can have a new sett made for our use and what will be the probable cost.

Your letter of the 7th instant, inclosing your account with me, has been received. My account for Contingent expences has gone forward; the Bullion accounts are detained waiting for decision on Dr Riddell's account which has been submitted to you by Mr Kennedy.

The remittance you desire, to pay some outstanding bill account of this branch, will be made to you in a few days.

With much respect
I subscribe myself
your faithful servant
H. C. Cammack
Treasurer

To Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director U.S. Mint
Philadelphia



in good order and well conditioned, by U S Branch Mint N O
on board the good Ship called the Shakspeare
whereof Miner is Master for this present
Voyage, now lying in the port of **NEW ORLEANS,** and bound for
New York To say

T H F
No. 1 @ 13

Thirteen barrels of the Melter & Refiner's Sweeps

Being marked and numbered as in the margin, and are to be delivered in the like good order and well conditioned, at the aforesaid port of New York (the dangers of the seas only excepted,) unto T. H. Furness Esq. or to his assigns, ~~he or they paying~~ freight for said

One 25/100 Dollars for bbl paid here
with 5% primage & average accustomed

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Master of the said Vessel hath affirmed to 3 Bills of Lading all of this tenor and date, one of which being accomplished, the others to stand void.

Dated in New Orleans, 27 day of Jany 1842

Contents unknown

Miner

Mint of the United States,
Philadelphia, Jan. 25, 1842.

Sir,

~~It will give me great pleasure to comply with your request~~

Your letter of the 1st. inst., marked *Private*, was received by me on the 14th. On the same day, I received, from Mr. Kennedy, a letter of the 3d, in which he says — "I will send you, in a day or two, the documents you desire connected with the account of the Melter & Refiner, together with a statement of the account of the Coiner." As such a communication from the Superintendent would have brought Dr. Riddell's account before me, in an official and formal manner, I delayed answering your letter, in the daily hope of receiving the promised statement. It has not, however, yet come to hand, and I have therefore, ~~without~~ not thinking it right to postpone the matter longer, taken the liberty of making reference to the copy of the account sent by you, and written my views with regard to it fully to Mr. Kennedy. To this letter I beg to refer you.

I remark that in your settlement with the Coiner, the "Coins reserved for Assay" are made to enter into his account. Whatever may have been the form originally sent from this Mint, (and of this I am uncertain,) such is not the course now pursued here, or the most correct one, and I wish you to change it for the future. All the Coins struck should be ~~pa~~ handed over to the Treasurer by the Coiner, and a ~~full~~ credit given to him accordingly, — Coinage Account being at the same time debited with the whole amount. After each delivery, the reserved coins are taken out by the Treasurer, in the presence of the Assayer, and placed in the pyx under their joint keeping, according to law. The Coinage account is credited with this amount, and the Treasurer debited under the head "Coins reserved for Assay:" these entries being made quarterly ~~monthly~~.

As to the deposite made with you by the Citizen's Bank, I will afford you any opportunity you may desire, to satisfy yourself as to their true standard. The low rates given by your Mint, have, I see, excited uneasiness at Washington, as well as with yourself and with me.

I know not how to advise you as to ~~the~~ any precautionary steps which you could take to secure you from having doubtful accounts disallowed at Washington. Perhaps the best course would be for Mr. Kennedy or yourself (more properly Mr. Kennedy) to lay such doubtful cases before the Secretary, and ask his ~~decision~~ opinion. He will of course refer the matter to the Comptroller, and a decision by him would make you safe. ~~Mr.~~ Riddell's claims for the smelting of Mr. Maxwell's sweep, and for a further allowance for wastage for 1848, are both of a character to require caution before they should be admitted on your books.

R. M. P.

To/
M. C. Cammack, Esq.,
Treasurer of Br. Mint,
New Orleans.

P.S. — Your letter of the 4th inst., post-marked 13th, was received this morning. — I am at a loss to know whether you have given Mr. Hooper a draft upon me for $12. to be remitted to Martin Summers, or whether you authorise me to pay that amt. without draft. —

ARCHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES

Mint of the United States.
Jan. 25th, 1842.

Sir,

In your letter of the 3d inst., received by me on the 14th, you say, "I will send you, in a day or two, the documents you desire connected with the settlement of the account of the Melter & Refiner, together with a statement of the account of the Office." I have to regret, however, that this communication has not yet been received. The ~~statement or~~ account, as presented by ~~the Melt~~ Dr. Riddell, was, indeed, sent to me by Mr. Cammack, but as it had not received your approbation or your warrant, ~~when sent, I did not think it~~ and as I supposed you might cause it to be modified, I have delayed making the remarks which it suggested to me, until I think that the discussion of this subject can no longer be postponed with propriety. Again and again has the settlement of Dr. Riddell's account been urged and promised, and it is not yet made.

In the account rendered, the very first item excites my astonishment, and calls for explanation. It appears that during the year ~~there was~~ the amount of silver delivered to Dr. Riddell, and on which the wastage is claimed, was 969,317.11 oz. ~~of silver~~ Now the whole amount of your deposits was

$535,775 and of your coinage $555,000. The last, which I take as the larger amount, corresponds to 469,140.6 oz., or less (by 31,036 oz.) than half the ~~amount~~ weight which successively passed into ~~his hands~~ the Melter's hands. I know that the continual return of clippings, [toppings, and filings, and the occasional necessary return of condemned ingots,] make the whole ~~amount~~ weight melted considerably greater than that ~~amount~~ deposited or coined, but I look upon the above difference as excessive. — At this Mint the amount of coinage during the year was, in silver, $577,750 corresponding to 496,504 standard ounces, yet the amount which passed into the Melter's hands was but 814,598 oz. If the same proportion had been observed at your Mint, the ~~amount~~ weight of silver melted would have been only 782,521 oz. or less than was actually melted, by 186,796 oz. This excess, besides the great unnecessary ~~cost~~ expense of labor and fuel, has cost, in ~~the~~ the Melter's full charge for ~~nat~~ wastage, ~~about~~ 373.6 oz or $435.

Of the credits claimed, the first (after the bullion &c. returned to the Treasury) is for "net value of sweep ready for shipment to New York, 409.88 St.d oz." This item also surprises me much. With your letter to me of the 4th of Nov. last, you sent a statement, accompanied by a certificate of Dr. Hort, in which Dr. Riddell makes the net amount of his sweep there on hand = 1,654.06 oz.

~~after the~~ It is true that in this estimate he has made all the gold, (~~estimated~~ valued at as worth) $535.80, to go toward paying for the smelting of the silver, whereas this gold should have been ~~employed~~ appropriated to diminish the ~~silver~~ gold wastage, after paying its just proportion of the cost of smelting. But in any view of the case, the net value of the silver sweep must have been more than the double of 409.88 oz. What, then, has become of the remainder? Has Dr. Riddell been smelting it himself? If so, has this been done at the cost of the ~~g~~ United States, after the instructions given in my ~~—~~ letter of the 16th of Nov.? My provisional arrangement with the Smelter, Greenfield of New York, was made on the ground of a larger supply of sweep than ~~was~~ it seems was ready to be sent to him at the beginning of the month, but which a letter from him of the 22d shows that he has not yet received. I do not know whether he will refine so small a quantity at the price offered by him for the whole, namely $7½ per cent.

The next item presented by Dr. Riddell is "Deduction required to pay for smelting sweep left by Mr. Maxwell late M. & R. — $206.09" I have, in my letter of Nov. 16th, given my opinion that there is fairness in some such charge as this, and my wish that it could be ~~brought within the~~ so presented as to pass the ordeal at Washington. As given in Dr. Riddell's account, I

4/

from it would be objected to, and perhaps rejected. — Indeed I have myself some remarks to make on it. 1st. — Greenfield's charge for refining 30 cts. (the weight of Mr. Maxwell's sweep,) i.e. $225 = 192.57 oz, instead of 206. — 2d. If Dr. Riddell ~~Mx~~ has been ~~smelting or other~~ refining sweep at the cost of the Mint, Mr. Maxwell's account should have the advantage of this operation as well as his own. — 3d. In ~~Dr.~~ Riddell's statement of ~~Dec~~ Oct. 30th, the gold found in the whole sweep (including Mr. Maxwell's,) was appropriated to pay for the refining only of Dr. Riddell's sweep. Is this also the case in the statement of Jan 1st?

The next claim is for "Amount required for making the silver wastage for 1840 full, as a set-off for 300 oz. in gold alloy received in April." It is not likely, I think, that the ~~accounting~~ Department at Washington will allow the last year's account to be opened for the admission of such a charge; and yet I acknowledge that there is a show of justice in it. — Dr. Riddell ~~to make square his account~~ had, at the close of 1840, a claim to an allowance of 2 ‰ for wastage, if this ~~silver~~ amount were really missing after he had returned all the silver in his possession. Instead of ~~going to~~ doing so, he made a charge of 300 oz for silver used in alloying gold, — a charge on no account to be allowed, ~~as it is not likely that any silver was used for this purpose~~. By this mistake, he lost the opportunity of a ~~charge~~ claim of what he states to be 274.97 oz., which he could have made by asking the full allowance for wastage. Shall this opportunity be again offered to him? The Auditor & Comptroller must answer this question.

5.

The last item, after all the above, is for the full allowance of 2 ‰ for wastage, on the 969,317.11 oz. of silver melted. This amount of wastage is excessive, and all the attempts to account for it, heretofore made, are, to me, unsatisfactory. At our Mint, the Melter & Refiner's account, for the last year, stood as follows:

On 814,598.30 oz. silver delivered, — wastage 390.60 oz = 0.48 ‰
On 61,583.326 " gold " " 0.0.

Dr. Riddell's gold wastage is nearly one thousandth.

R. M. P. Dir.

To
Jos. M. Kennedy, Esq.
Sup. Br. Mint,
New Orleans

P.S. — Your three packages of coins for the annual assay have been duly received.

Mint U.S.

Jan. 24/42.

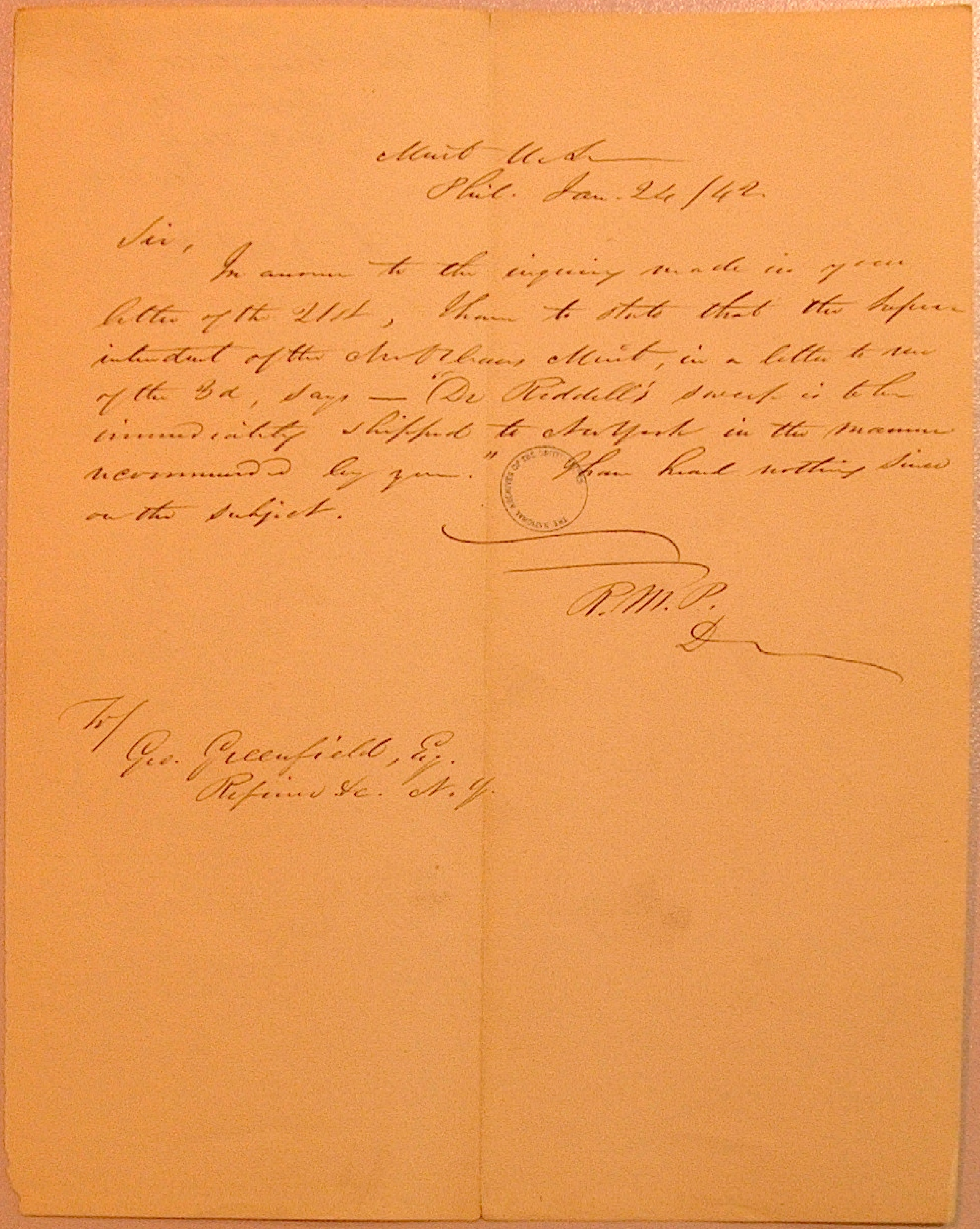
Sir,

I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt, under your frank, of ~~two~~ the second and third packages of coins, for the Annual assay, transmitted ~~by the~~ from the Branch Mint at New Orleans. The first was acknowledged in my letter of the 22d.

R.M.P.

D

To/
Hon. Walter Forward,
Sec. of Treasury.



Mint U.S.
Phil. Jan. 24 /42.

Sir,

In answer to the inquiry made in your letter of the 21st, I have to state that the Superintendent of the New Orleans Mint, in a letter to me of the 3d, says — "Dr Riddell's sweep is to be immediately shipped to New York in the manner recommended by you." I have heard nothing since on the subject.

R. M. P.
Dir.

To/
Geo. Greenfield, Esq.
Refiner &c. N.Y.

New Orleans Br. Mint
Treasurers Office 21 Jany '42

Sir

I enclose a small piece of silver cut from a bar which I send for the purpose of having it assayed and I beg you to do me the favor to report the title.

very respectfully
Your mo obt St
H. C. Cammack

ARCHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES

To Dr R. M. Patterson
Director U.S. Mint

U. S. Branch Mint
N. Orleans January 21. 1842

Sir,

The documents enclosed are Dr. Riddell's bond, approved by the District Attorney, which he handed me yesterday, and a copy of the letter I was expecting from him when I addressed you on the 17th instant. Dr. R. has occasionally, since the rebuilding of the flues, asked my consent to his employing a man to do little jobs of mason-work in his department. This man, he tells me, has from time to time worked at the furnace mentioned in his letter, and he assures me that the whole of its cost to the Mint, does not exceed fifty dollars. It was built without my knowledge.

ARCHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES

When the account presented by the Melter & Refiner for settlement on the 31st ult., was submitted to me, finding that there was a great difference between the amount of sweep mentioned therein, and that contained in his account handed in at the close of our operations last summer, I asked him for an explanation, stating, that if this reduction had been brought about at the

expense of the Mint it would be so much to be
x You find in his letter that it has cost the Mint only 3 barrels of charcoal for refg 1200 lb.
taken from his allowance for wastage. x I have signed the warrant for his wastage for 1841, wishing to hear from you what deduction must be made therefrom.

The "deduction required to pay for smelting sweep left by Maxwell late M. & R." I have not admitted, not knowing whether you would approve it in that shape. Neither have I allowed the "amount required for making the wastage of 1840 full, as a sett off for 30 ounces in gold alloy received in April" because it appears to me to amount to a renewal, in another form, of his claim for silver used for alloying gold. I have told him that I would submit these two items to you.

We have lately recd. two boxes, containing the following dies — 1 ½ dollar head die, 1 ¼ dollar head die, 1 dime and 1 ½ dime head die, 1 ½ Eagle head die, 1 ¼ dollar tail die, 1 dime and 1 ½ dime tail die, 1 ½ Eagle tail die, and 1 pr. ¼ Eagle dies — The 2 prs. dime, and 1 tail ½ dollar die mentioned in your letter of the 18th. ulto. were received on the 10th. of August last. Mr. Tyler has requested me to postpone the destruction of the old dies until next month, as, being not yet well provided, there are some among them which he wishes to use. He has desired me further to say, that he would be glad if, in addition to the regular supply of dies of the other denominations, you would send us 3 pr. of dime, and 2 pr. of ½ dime dies every month.

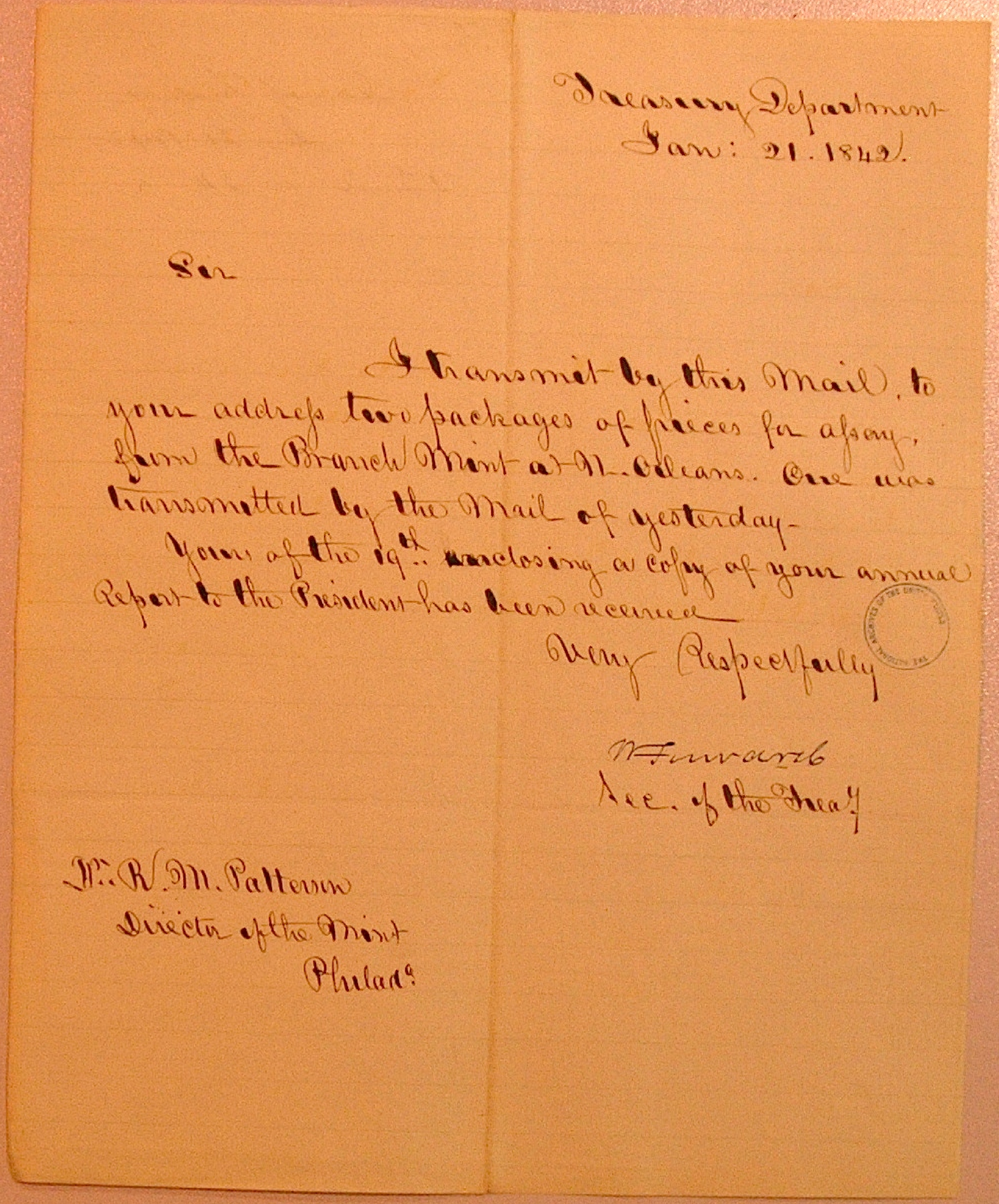
Dr. Riddell has requested me to order from Philadelphia for the use of his department "1 cask black lead covers assorted sizes — 2 hhds. pots No. 60 (black lead) 1 cask or hhd. of next smaller size", and Dr. Hort, for the Assay Department, "a demijohn pure nitric acid."

I will not close this letter without stating to you a fact to which all the officers of the Mint can bear testimony, viz: that I have very often complained to Dr. Riddell of the intervals which have taken place between his deliveries of ingots, and of other delays in his department. On the last occasion of my doing so, which was a few days ago, he replied, that he confessed, the state of his account was with him always the first consideration, and that in order to keep himself, at all times, prepared to make a settlement, if called upon, the time necessarily taken from the regular operations of his department, owing to his limited number of hands, was about two days in every week. I told him of my dissatisfaction with such a course and that I conceived it to be my duty to make you acquainted with it - The reason assigned by him for not having yet shipped his surplus is, that he has for some days past devoted all his attention to the furnishing of his Bond.

Respectfully
Yr. obed. Servt.
J M Kennedy
Supt.

R. M. Patterson Esq
Director of the
Mint of the U. S.
Philada.

From
Jas. M. Kennedy, Esq.
Supt. &c.
New Orleans.
Jan. 21. 1842.
Recd. Feb. 1. —



Treasury Department
Jan: 21. 1842.

Sir

I transmit by this Mail, to your addreſs two packages of pieces for aſsay, from the Branch Mint at N. Orleans. One was transmitted by the Mail of yesterday.

Yours of the 19th. enclosing a copy of your annual Report to the President has been received

Very Respectfully

W Forward
Sec. of the Treay.

Dr. R. M. Patterson
Director of the Mint
Philada.

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES

New York. January 21. 1842

Dr Patterson

Dear Sir

I have as yet heard nothing of the New Orleans mint sweep. I expected to have received it before this time. I would be obliged to you, if you would give me some information relative to it. as I have been prepared to receive it for some time past.

Yours Respectfully,

Geo. Greenfield & Co

Refiners.

No 8 Cortlandt Street

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES

W. C. Cammack, Treasurer

Sir,

For a long time – two years I suppose, previous to the 1st of the present month, you have deducted habitually $\frac{75}{100}$ \$ per \$1000 on silver coin deposites whether melted or assumed. When I at length came to be aware of this, I apprized you that the instructions contemplated a deduction of $\frac{1}{10}$ to $\frac{1}{7}$ of 1 per cent. on coins when melted. This greater deduction, on melted, over assumed and unmelted coins, is designed to meet the loss of weight occasioned by the burning out of copper in the process of melting, whereby the title is raised. I expect, therefore, of course, that on large deposites, where the title is obtained by melting an averaged portion, the deduction of $\frac{1}{10}$ to $\frac{1}{7}$ per cent will be made +

Respectfully
Your obt servt
J. L. Riddell
Melter & Refiner

+ on the whole deposite.

20. January 1842.

U. S. Branch Mint
N. Orleans January 17. 1842

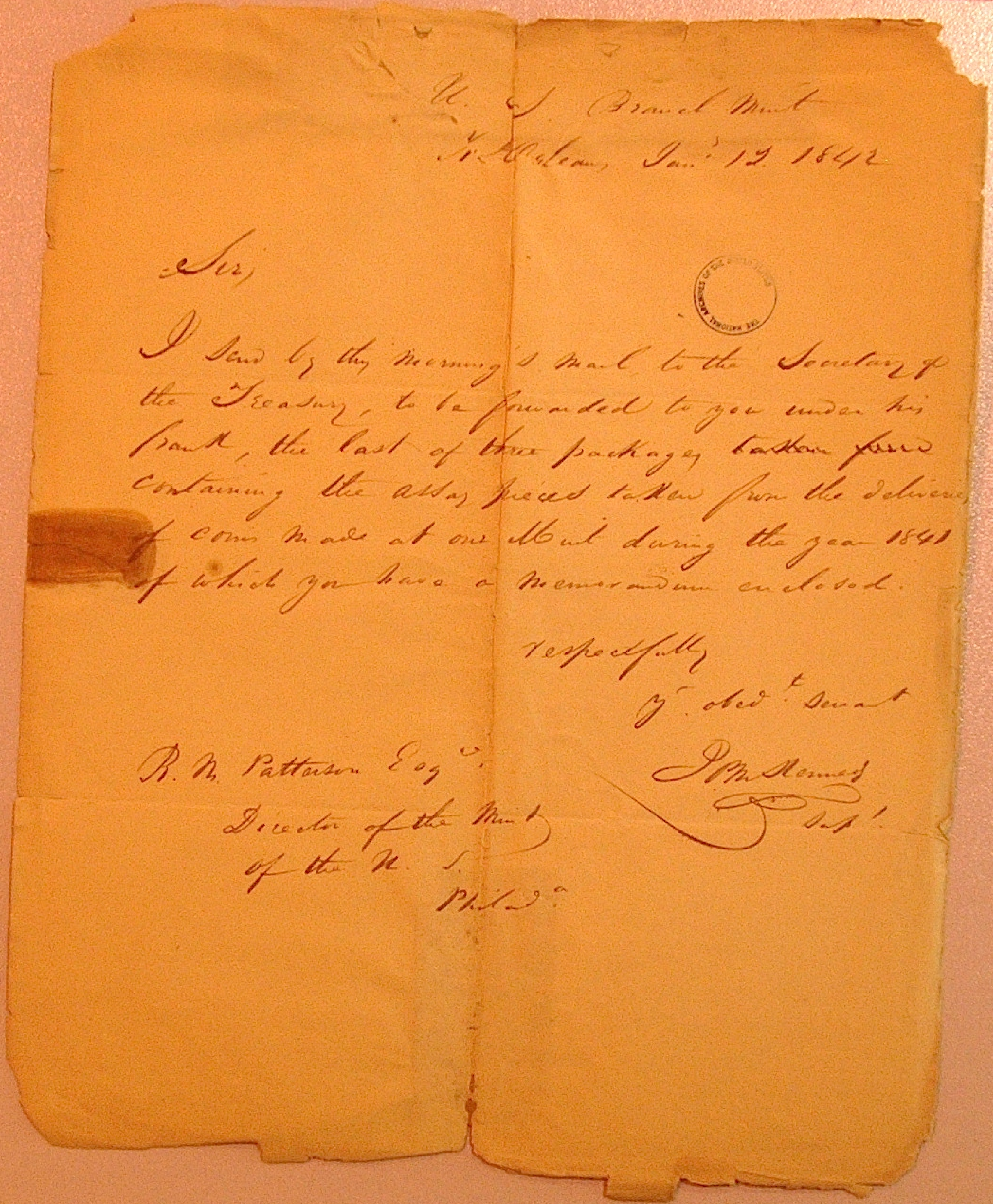
Sir,

I have been for several days awaiting a reply to a letter of mine, from the Melter & Refiner, to send you, with my remarks thereon, the account presented by him at the close of the last year, and to give you proper explanations in relation to a furnace which he is reported to have erected at great cost for the reduction of grains, and to his using rosin as a fuel. As it may yet be a day or two before that reply will be received, I have thought it better to enclose without further delay the communication which was handed to me by the Treasurer, containing a statement of his account, as also that of the Coiner, together with an estimate of the value and the weight of his sweeps, and to say at once, that the building of such a furnace was not authorized by me; leaving the remarks and explanations above mentioned, and other matters concerning our Mint, to be the subjects of another letter which I will prepare as soon as I shall have heard from the Melter & Refiner. There is another thing in which Dr. Riddell has also been more dilatory than ~~I~~ he should have been, and that, notwithstanding my urgent solicitations, I mean the furnishing other Sureties in the place of Drs. Jones and Stone. The operations of his Department are however not stopped on that account, as, in the opinion of the District Attorney, whom I have consulted, they are all covered by the old Bond — He promises to have the matter settled in a short time.

Respectfully
y. obed^t. servant
J M Kennedy
Supt.

R. M. Patterson Esq^r.
Director of the
Mint of the U.S.
Philad^a.

P.S. I have this moment learned that [illegible] has had some difficulty in procuring securities. His Bond is now before the District Attorney for approval. I think it probable that one of the names mentioned to me will be rejected —



U. S. Branch Mint
N. Orleans, Jan.y 12. 1842

Sir,

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF THE UNITED STATES

I send by this morning's mail to the Secretary of the Treasury, to be forwarded to you under his frank, the last of three packages taken from containing the assay pieces taken from the deliveries of coins made at our Mint during the year 1841 of which you have a memorandum enclosed.

respectfully
Yr. obed.t Servant
J. M. Kennedy
Supt.

R. M. Patterson Esq.r
Director of the Mint
of the U. S.
Philad.a

United States Branch Mint.
January 11th 1842.

J. M. Kennedy Esqr.
Supt.

Sir,

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

I write in reply to your Note of this day, respecting a furnace. Finding myself utterly unable to use the test furnace which I found in the mint, from the inadequacy of the flue; I availed myself as you are aware, of an excellent provision of the new Stacks, to connect therewith an air furnace to answer in part as a substitute for the test furnace. The structure is so modified as to admit of the fluxing down of grains &c with incomparably greater expedition and economy than in pots, in common melting furnaces. This improvement I found necessary in order to keep down the constantly accumulating balance of grains, not being able while melting ingots to keep a man at work on the grains. Here too, I find it convenient to extract the silver from iron pots, to burn over grains preparatory to washing it.—

As to its cost, it being small, and of a simple and cheap construction, its cost has been considerably within that of the furnace for casting ingots. As to Rosin, I found a lot of rosin-dross at 80cts a barrel, which I bought; for effect, I believe it has proven superior to, and cheaper than Coal.

I find this furnace of such great use in various ways that I should hardly know how to go on without it.

The particular process by which I am enabled to extract rather more than the nett value from sweeps, I have not yet made public. I intend in due time to secure the same by patent. I use no flux, neither mercury nor acid solvents, nor resin as fuel, and the residue is still in the form of pulverulent sweep, not completely exhausted of precious metal, but I have no difficulty in so impoverishing it, that it will not bear the expense of smelting. The expense of this process is so very trifling that it does not deserve my consideration.

I shall be happy to give you any further verbal explanations you may wish. You may form some idea of the expense, when I inform you that, one man will complete the essential and principal part of the process on 1200 lbs of sweep in one day, requiring the consumption of 3 barrels of coal, and nothing else. In reducing the sweep I have employed my servants and other labour, at my own expense.

Notwithstanding, I do not foresee any object on my part hereafter, in thus reducing the sweep, especially as a different course seems to be desired, if not required by the Director viz:- selling the sweep to professional sweep smelters.

This way which is pursued by the parent Mint, I trust I will hereafter be enabled to settle my accounts, and I will certainly have enough to do, without putting trouble upon myself which I can reasonably dispense with.

Your Obedient Servant
sigd J. L. Riddell
Melter & Refiner.

(Confidential.)

Mint of the United States.
Philadelphia, Jan. 8th, 1842.

Dear Sir,

By a letter which I have just received from New Orleans, I learn that ~~information~~ a report has reached the Superintendent of the Mint there,—Mr. Kennedy,—that it is the intention of the President to remove him from office. If such be the fact, he does not ~~desire~~ wish to take any ~~steps~~ measures to prevent the course which the President may think proper to pursue, but he is desirous of being spared the mortification of a removal~~, by having~~. He has accordingly ~~made application~~ applied (through a fellow officer,) to me, to know "whether I think he is to be removed," as in that case "he will resign immediately." — I need not tell you that I am entirely ignorant ~~of the matter~~ on this point, and I certainly feel embarrassed by the delicate ~~commission~~ task committed to me. ~~As Mr. Ken~~nedy is a gentleman of high standing, however, ~~& I cannot refuse to make to you the offer of being suppose that, if there really be an intention to displace him, the request which he makes will be refused~~ and if ~~you think it~~ there be really an intention to displace him, and you do not think it improper to communicate this fact to me, I should be glad of the opportunity of saving his feelings as he desires. In this event, I should take care to proceed with prudence and ~~secrecy~~, not to indicate the source from which I ~~derived my~~ information.

Hon. Walter Forward. }

R. M. P.

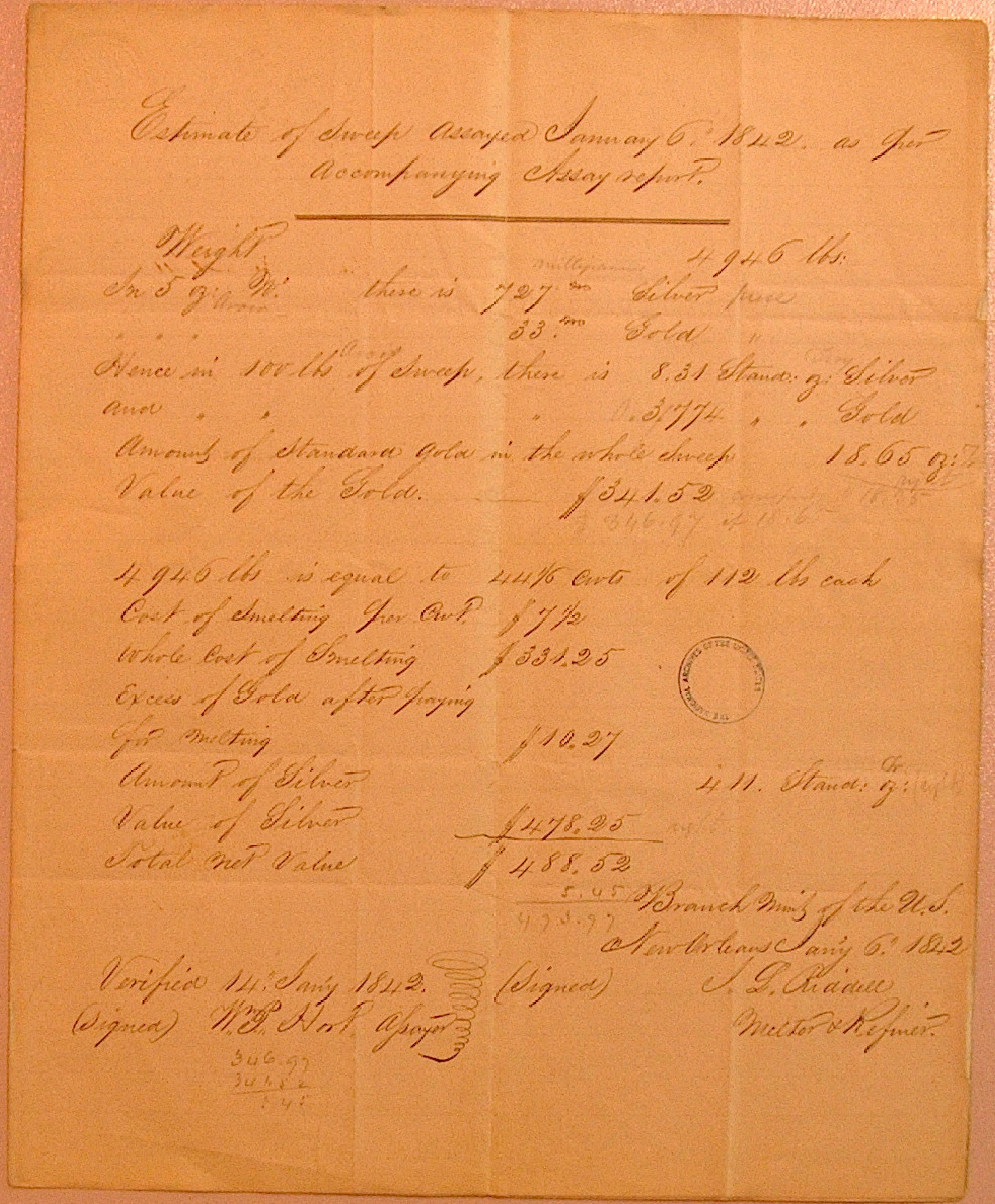
Mint of the U.S.
Jan. 7, 1842

Sir,

Herewith I send you a statement of my account with your Mint, for the quarter just closed, together with the vouchers. A balance remains in my hands, to your credit, of Seventy six 41/100 dollars. There are bills outstanding for considerably more than this amount; but the proceeds of your coins for the Annual Assay will be available in time to meet them.

R.M.P.
Director

To/
H. C. Cammack, Esq.,
Treas. Br. Mint,
New Orleans



Estimate of Sweep Assayed January 6th 1842. as per
Accompanying Assay report.

Weight 4946 lbs.

In 5 gr. W. there is 727.m millegrammes Silver pure

" " " 33.m Gold "

Hence in 100 lbs. Assay of Sweep, there is 8.31 Stand. oz. Troy Silver

and " " " 0.3774 " " Gold

Amount of Standard Gold in the whole Sweep 18.65 oz.

Value of the Gold. — $341.52

$346.97 @ 18.6

4946 lbs is equal to 44 1/6 Cwts of 112 lbs each

Cost of Smelting per Cwt. $7 1/2

Whole Cost of Smelting $331.25

Excess of Gold after paying

for melting $10.27

Amount of Silver 411. Stand: oz:

Value of Silver $478.25

Total net Value $488.52

5.45

493.97

Branch Mint of the U.S.
New Orleans Jany 6th 1842

Verified 14th Jany 1842. (Signed) J. G. Riddell
(Signed) Wm. P. Hort Assayer Melter & Refiner.

346.97
341.52
5.45

Dear Sir

I annex the estimate which has just been handed to me

Yours Obt St

H C Cammack

14 Jany